WEDNESDAY
October 15, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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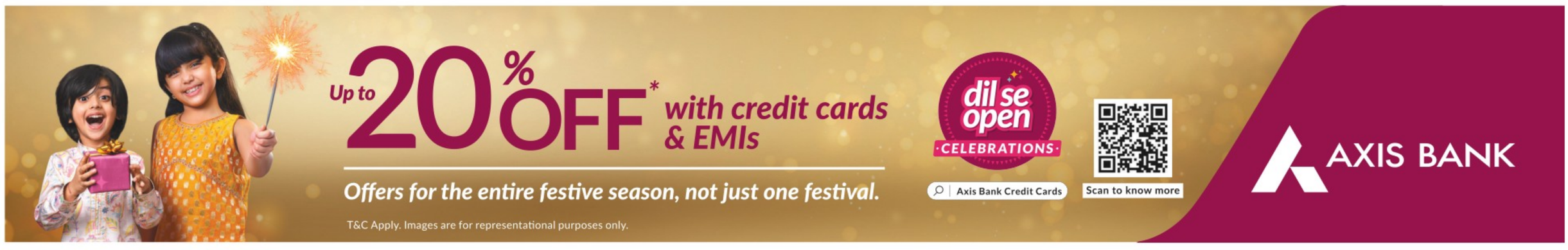

RESERVATION IN LOCAL BODIES

Telangana moves SC over stay on quota hike

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'BREACH OF NORMS'

Russia struck aid convoy in Ukraine: UN

WORLD » PAGE 16

PACKING A PUNCH

India completes series sweep against WI

SPORT » PAGE 17

61 Maoists, including top leaders, lay down arms in Maharashtra

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

In a blow to the Maoist movement in Maharashtra, 61 Maoists, including the prominent central committee member of the CPI (Maoist) Mallojula Venugopal Rao, alias, Bhupati, surrendered before the Maharashtra Police at Fodewada village in Bhamragad in the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday.

The 70-year-old Bhupati is known to be one of the brains behind the extremist movement. Those who surrendered include two State zonal committee members, 10 divisional committee members and cadres from Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.

The Maoists handed over 54 weapons, including seven AK47s, six SLRs and six INSAS rifles. Bhupati's surrender comes months after his wife Tarakka, alias Vimala Sidam, also a Maoist leader, turned herself in. His sister-in-law had also surrendered.

A senior official told *The Hindu* that with Bhupati's surrender, "the core family of the Naxal movement" has ended and that it is a "major step in the elimination" of the insurgency.

"It has happened after four to five months of consistent efforts by the Maharashtra Police," the official said, adding that there was "stiff competition between police forces of Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh and Telangana to secure the surrender of the most-dreaded Naxal leader."

"Bhupati was the brain or the guiding spirit behind the Naxal movement. He was the number two in the movement and was to become the general secretary," an official said.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

SC questions if ED is overstepping in T.N. liquor-scam probe

Court extends stay on the Central agency's investigation; CJI Gavai asks if federal structure is affected, and why local police can't look into the case

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

Enforcement Directorate officials conducting a raid at Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation headquarters in Chennai. FILE PHOTO

Extending the stay on the Enforcement Directorate's probe into money laundering cases registered against the Tamil Nadu State Marketing Corporation (TASMAC) in connection with an alleged liquor retail scam, the Supreme Court on Tuesday orally questioned whether the agency's probe encroached upon the State's authority to investigate offences.

Hearing petitions filed by TASMAC and the Tamil Nadu government, a Bench of Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai and Justice K. Vinod Chandran directed that the case be listed after the court pronounces its judgment on the review petitions challenging its 2022 ruling in *Vijay Madanlal Choudhary vs Union of India* case.

Chief Justice Gavai asked Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju, appearing for the ED, "What happens to the federal structure? Would this not amount to encroachment upon the State's right to investigate? Can't the local police look into the matter?"

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

NEARBY

CM hints at Cabinet reshuffle by November-end

BENGALURU
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has reportedly indicated to senior Ministers that a Cabint reshuffle is likely in the last week of November or the first week of December, and advised them to be "mentally prepared". » PAGE 8

Priyank Kharge says he is getting threat calls

BENGALURU
IT-BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge has said that he has been "receiving calls filled with threats and filthiest abuse" directed at him and his family. » PAGE 8

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 5

Nadine de *Clutch* and the Proteas' way of keeping the faith

The 25-year-old has expertly negotiated early stutters in high-pressure games with scary mastery to ensure South Africa's bid to win its maiden World Cup title stays on track

Lavanya L

Run a scalpel through Nadine de Klerk's veins and you'll probably encounter a block of rock-hard ice, unbothered by the inferno called World Cup cricket raging outside. It is quite something for a lower-order batter to come and save their side from impending defeat time and again, and do it in some style.

Two games. Two nights. The same coastal colosseum. One saw a fairly packed arena cheering on the local gladiators, while the other barely had any spectators, the crowd largely absent due to a lopsided pairing of rivals. However, South Africa - remarkably and frustratingly in equal measure - put on identical shows of spirit to walk away with victory, leaving its rivals in a spot of bother.

Against India, de Klerk walked in with 110 runs needed from 85 balls. Skipper Laura Wolvaardt, after a valiant 70-run knock, had just fallen with South Africa six wickets down, and a challenging Indian bowling order was starting to see light at the end of the tunnel. The Women in Blue kept the lid on the Proteas, with the asking rate climbing with each passing over.

South Africa needed 52 runs from the last five overs when the usually stingy Sneh Rana was handed the ball. De Klerk gave herself space and smacked the offie over cover for four and followed it up by smacking a tossed-up delivery over midwicket for six. Sneh pegged back, trapping a set Chloe Tryon leg before.

Harmanpreet Kaur turned to young Kranti Gaud to find a breakthrough. The pressure was evident with the pacer straying wide at the start. De Klerk then tore into her, with two massive sixes and a four, bringing up her half-century along the way.

India broke the momentum with Richa Ghosh going down, needing help with her hamstring. De Klerk was not amused and immediately walked up to the umpire, calling out her opponent's tactics to slow the game down; flashbacks of the Men's T20 World Cup, where Rishabh Pant got up to mischief of the same vein, still fresh for the Proteas.

Ayabonga Khaka promptly spent the duration of the break in play calming de Klerk down, by which time the blue shirts were all clumped up trying to orchestrate the South African allrounder's dismissal.

But she was not to be stopped. She kept up to the required rate, picking 11 runs off Deepti Sharma, bringing the equation down to 12 runs needed off as many balls. Two effortless sixes off Amanjot Kaur sealed the deal for the Proteas, and de Klerk finished with an unbeaten 54-ball 84.

Mind you, this was a league game, but one that looked strikingly devoid of hope at times. The South Africans rushed onto the field like they'd won the tournament and wrapped up a soaking de Klerk in hugs and head rubs.

"It's not good for the heart (laughs), but I do like being under pressure. I love the World Cups. No bigger stage than playing India at their home. We had to be at our best. We are capable of beating the best sides in the world. We just had to take it deep. We are a very good side in the backend," the 25-year-old declared after the win.

The humid conditions in Vizag and the drama of it all took a massive toll, with de Klerk falling to the floor with cramps once the job was done.

It wouldn't stop there. It was de Klerk to the fore again, four days later, against Bangladesh. Determined to create havoc in the semifinal race, Nigar Sultana Joty's side posted a sluggish yet competitive 232/6. South Africa's batting wobbled again, and the same characters - Wolvaardt, Tryon, and de Klerk with some help from Kapp - stepped up to the chase.

Once more, in walked de Klerk in the 41st over, with the Proteas needing 70 runs from 58 balls.

Her intent was there for all to see from the word go, as she targeted the square boundaries. She adeptly swept Fahima Khatun for four through backward square leg to help ease the stress on Tryon's tired shoulders. But chaos ensued when Tryon, after being handed a reprieve by a dropped catch, was run out. The South African faithful and the dressing room all tightened up. Who would support de Klerk in her pursuit of an encore?

Masabata Klaas proved an able second fiddle, rotating strike and keeping the pace of the chase going for de Klerk. While the spinners squeezed the scoring spout, the odd boundary helped keep the rate manageable. De Klerk was then given a huge lifeline by Shorna Akter, who dropped a sitter off Rabeya Khan's bowling at long-off. The cameras immediately panned to de Klerk, who had her heart in her mouth as she realised how lucky she was to escape.

There was no turning back from there as she whipped Nahida Akter for a four and a six to put the game to bed with an unbeaten 29-ball 37.

Tryon took home the player of the match award but promptly credited the side's young firebrand. "Glad to have Nadine at the back doing what she does best," she remarked.

K.R DEEPAK

Method to madness

"It comes quite naturally," de Klerk later admitted. "That is my role in this side. I have to finish off the game." She also concedes that this kind of chutzpah needs a bit of craziness, too!

"I just talk to myself like a weirdo. I don't know how much they actually pick up on the stump mics," she told *Sportstar* after the Bangladesh win.

"Sometimes, nerves do get the better of you. I have tried to focus on staying calm. So, whether I go in with 11 runs required from an over or five, I have tried to keep the same mentality, be positive, and put opponents on the back foot.

As all-rounders take control of the women's game, de Klerk has had the benefit of working more with batting coach Baakier Abrahams on the impact she can have with the willow.

"The biggest change, if any, has been about changing how I take guard a bit so I can access more areas. That's been a very key element for me," she explained.

"We have also worked a lot on spin and playing off the back foot. We had a few camps in Durban where we just worked on tackling spin, and it's evident in how we are tackling the tweakers."

Thriving in transition

Formerly a javelin thrower, de Klerk settled into a life in cricket quite well and is always on the lookout for ways to contribute to her side's cause. A seam-bowling allrounder, she is making her way in the international scene for a side that is still dealing with the retirement of pace ace Shabnim Ismail. For most of 2024, she was also juggling a higher volume of bowling duties, with Kapp dealing with injuries.

Life on the bench could only do so much to help her evolve as a cricketer.

"It's very difficult to learn your own skill and your trade if you're sitting on the sidelines. Over the last few years, I've played a lot more. I've gotten more confident in my game and how I want to play. There is a bit more freedom in the way I go about my business."

Apart from being a mainstay in the Proteas senior squad, de Klerk is also a globetrotting franchise cricketer, having represented Brisbane Heat in the Women's Big Bash, Oval Invincibles in The Hundred, and Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Women's Premier League.

With totals across both white ball formats veering towards higher ceilings with each passing year, de Klerk finetuned her own skills with the willow.

"People will figure you out and try and exploit your weaknesses. You need to try and find a way. Sometimes you get out, sometimes you figure it out.

"I like to watch a lot of videos of my batting when I was struggling. What did I do? How did I get out of that difficult phase? Or what did I do when I couldn't get out of that difficult phase? I try and revisit what I did in the past and put those pieces back together."

A while ago, her go-to knock to revisit was an unbeaten 106 for The Blaze in the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy in 2024.

"I had a really lean patch building up to that. I was really struggling for runs, barely getting to double figures. I felt a bit down and out. In that inning, I struggled in the beginning. I was eight off 25 balls or something. I just couldn't get the ball away. I remember thinking, 'Let me stick it out. It's going to get easier. Don't feel pressure and throw your wicket away.' It's a 50-over game; I have time. I grew in confidence and eventually began finding the gaps, and went on to score a hundred. That knock was important, as a future reference point to revisit."

Keeping things light

The South African dugout is not an easy place to be when the Proteas have their backs to the wall. Kapp, for instance, on a good day, might obliterate you with her poker face when running in to open the bowling. It's a million times worse when South Africa is stuttering with the bat, and she isn't in the middle of it to help. De Klerk loves to be the harbinger of good vibes even here.

"I like to make jokes. I am the loud one. I laugh really loudly, talk a lot. I think sometimes, people think, 'Girl, please keep quiet.' We have a few clowns within the side, but I love making jokes. I am pretty laid back and chill."

That brief can get hard to follow in the middle of a tense World Cup campaign with so many emotions riding along. South Africa has made the semifinal in the last two 50-over World Cups and has fallen short in the final of the last two T20 showpieces. So, it is easy to understand why every win, every comeback, means that much more to this unit.

"We have a good saying going around within this side that your high shouldn't be too high and your low shouldn't be too low. I think it's really important to remember that in professional sports. Being emotional comes with its challenges, but it's absolutely worth it. Every time we sing the anthem, there's so much emotion. We want to do well for our families back home," she explained.

Courtesy of several clutch performances, South Africa has resurrected its campaign in the ongoing World Cup, but de Klerk believes there's more to come from the side.

"Hopefully, we can keep winning and play our best cricket. I think our best is still to come, so I hope our best comes when it matters the most."

THE GIST

- Nadine de Klerk's career-best unbeaten 84 against India was her first half-century at the World Cup
- It was also the second-highest score made from No. 8 or lower in a women's ODI
- De Klerk hit five sixes in that innings, the joint most from a batter No. 8 or lower in a women's ODI
- She has 124 runs and four wickets to her name for South Africa in a World Cup campaign that has belonged to all-rounders

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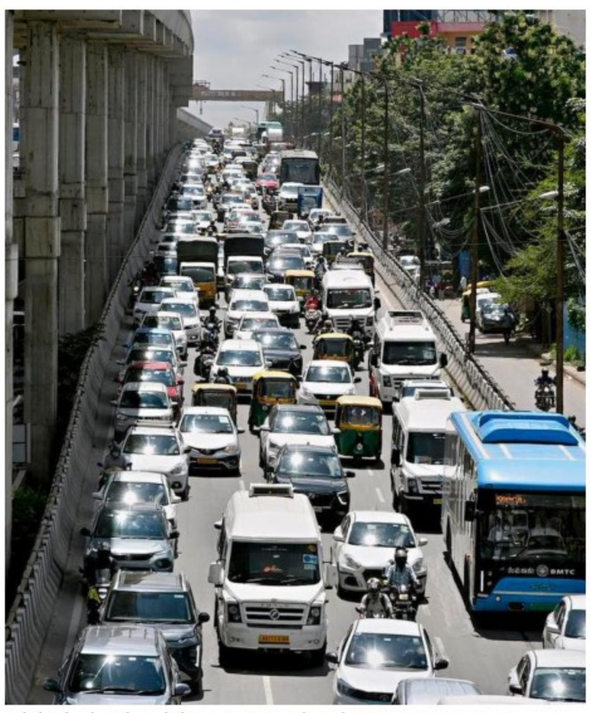
One hour to cover 2 km: BMTC bus breakdown turns ORR traffic into nightmare

According to reports, officials found it difficult to move the bus as the wheels were jammed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The infamous traffic issues on Outer Ring Road, Bengaluru's tech corridor, once again did a number on the commuters along the stretch, who witnessed snarling traffic and heavy congestion on Tuesday evening. Reportedly caused by a BMTC bus breakdown, the congestion choked flyovers, main roads, and service roads.



While the bus breakdown was cited as the primary reason causing the jam, some commuters pointed to the closure of service roads and traffic diversions. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Bus breakdown

"Worst traffic ever seen," remarked a commuter while trying to get to his home in the evening after work.

"I boarded the bus at 4.30 p.m. from Kadubeesanahalli. It's 6.10 p.m. now and I haven't even reached Silk Board. The traffic in this direction has been horrible today," said the techie, who works at a multinational company located along the stretch.

Another employee reported being stuck in the same place for 20 minutes and taking one hour to cross the two-km stretch between Kadubeesanahalli and Ecospace.

The congestion reportedly started with the breakdown of a BMTC bus near Ecospace flyover. Reports indicated that the officials found it difficult to move the bus as the wheels were jammed.

At 4.43 p.m., traffic police issued an advisory on X alerting the commuters about the breakdown and the slow-moving traffic at Kadubeesanahalli, Devarabisanahalli, and Bellandur.

"A BMTC bus broke down on the main carriageway, the key entry and exit point of IRR, causing severe traffic congestion. The incident occurred during the peak hours. A crane had to be called in and several people had to push the bus," said Karthik Reddy, Joint Commissioner of Police for traffic.

According to him, the traffic flow was restored to normalcy by 6 p.m.

More factors

While the bus breakdown was cited as the primary reason causing the jam, some commuters also pointed to the closure of service roads and traffic diversions.

"Panathur Main Road is closed for white topping and all traffic to and from there is going via Marathahalli, Kundalahalli and Vibgyor Road," pointed out one of the commuters.

According to others, the closure of service roads for ongoing works of the Blue Line Metro also contributed to the congestion.

Let's build Bengaluru together and not tear it down: DKS responds to Shaw

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In what seems to be a response to Biocon chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw's latest criticism on the poor condition of roads and garbage piles in the Bengaluru, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has made an appeal to "build the city together, instead of tearing it down".

D.K. Shivakumar

Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw

Highlighting that Bengaluru has given opportunities, identity, and success to millions and that the city deserves collective effort instead of constant criticism, he posted on X, "Yes, challenges exist, but we're addressing them with focus and urgency. ₹1,100 crore has been sanctioned for road repairs, 10,000+ potholes identified, and over 5,000+ already fixed on priority. Major infrastructure works are under way to make Bengaluru more globally competitive." He noted that under the Greater Bengaluru Authority, East Corporation would retain ₹1,673 crore of its own revenues to improve infrastructure in 50 wards, directly benefiting the IT corridors. Mr. Shivakumar also listed out projects such as CSB-K.R. Puram redevelopment and elevated corridors, which he said would strengthen the infrastructure for citizens, employees, and companies.

Collective effort

"Instead of tearing Bengaluru down, let's build it up - together. The world sees India through Bengaluru, and we owe it to our city to rise united," he wrote.

It was on Monday that Ms. Mazumdar-Shaw criticised the poor state of infrastructure in the city on her X handle.

"I had an overseas business visitor to Biocon Park who said 'Why are the roads so bad and why is there so much garbage around? Doesn't the Govt want to support investment? I have just come from China and can't understand why India can't get its act together especially when the winds are favourable?'" she wrote, tagging Mr. Shivakumar, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Electronics and IT-BT Minister Priyank Kharge on her post.

Following the Deputy Chief Minister's post she agreed that the city required a collective effort with a mindset of urgency and quality.

Lokayukta cracks down on govt. officials

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lokayukta sleuths on Tuesday carried out a series of raids and searches and seized disproportionate movable and immovable property worth over ₹38 crore.

Based on specific intelligence, several teams of officials carried out the raids simultaneously at the houses of officials in and around Bengaluru, Chitradurga, Davangere, Haveri, Bidar, Udupi, Bagalkot, and Hassan.

The officials also searched residences, offices and residences of the relatives of the accused officers at more than 48 places and recovered movable and immovable properties allegedly disproportionate to the known sources of income of the raided officials

A total of ₹7.32 crore worth assets were seized from V. Sumangala, Director, State School Education, Research and Training, Hosakerehalli, Bengaluru. She is currently under suspension.

During searches at six places belonging to her, the investigators found four sites, five houses and 19 acres of agricultural land, all worth ₹5.08 crore. The rest were movable assets, including ₹22 lakh worth of vehicles and ₹96.73 lakh worth of shares and mutual funds.

The others who were raided are Manjunatha G., Medical Officer, Maternity Hospital, Mallasandra, Bengaluru (₹3.24 crore DA); N.K. Gangamarigowda, Surveyor, KIADB, Bengaluru (₹4.66 crore); N. Chandrashekar, Assistant Director, Agriculture, Holalkere, Chitradurga (₹5.14 crore); Jagadeesh Nayka K.H., Assistant Engineer, KRIDL, Davanagere (₹2.04 crore); B.S. Naduvina Mane, Junior Assistant, the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Davanagere (₹2.30 crore); Basavesh Shivappa Shidenur, Incharge EO, Savanuru Taluk Panchayath, Haveri (₹1.67 crore); Ashok Shanrappa Araleshwar, Revenue Inspector, Taluk Office, Ranebennur, Haveri (₹2.25 crore); Dhoolappa, Assistant Director, Horticulture Department, Orad, Bidar (₹3.39 crore); Lakshminarayana P. Nayak, RTO, RTO Office, Udupi (₹2.21 crore); Chethan, Junior Engineer, KBJNL, ARBC, Division-2, Kamatagi, Bagalakote (₹1.67 crore); Jyothi Meri, FDA, Account Section, Health and Family Welfare Department, Hassan (₹2.17 crore)

'Tunnel DPR prepared as per norms'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Defending the proposed Tunnel Road project, Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE) said on Tuesday that the project has been taken up under the PPP mode for the first time in India and has significant importance to the State and the public.

In response to the report titled "DPR of tunnel road prepared in a hurry," published in *The Hindu* on October 14, the Director of B-SMILE said that a total of 18 boreholes (Geotechnical Tests) were conducted, which is within the norms specified under IS 17883:2022. The standard recommends at least one drill hole per kilometre, irrespective of depth, based on geological considerations, serving as a minimum requirement during the DPR stage, contrary to the impression that the tunnel DPR relied on only four soil test points, it said.

The statement noted that the shaft location within Lalbagh Botanical Garden has been carefully planned to ensure minimal environmental impact. It said the planning aligns with other ongoing infrastructure developments in the city, such as Metro works, and has been carried out with due sensitivity toward preserving ecological and heritage values.

A portion of the land at Lalbagh will be temporarily used for construction-related activities. K. MURALI KUMAR

Temporary use

A portion of the land at Lalbagh will be temporarily used for construction-related activities. Once the required works are completed, the land will be fully restored and handed back to the authority concerned , ensuring no permanent alteration to the garden. However, a small portion of the land will be permanently acquired for ventilation requirements, it said on Tuesday.

The statement added that the modal shift anticipated from enhancements in BMTC services, Metro rail, and Suburban rail has been considered while developing future traffic scenarios, in line with CMP-2020 recommendations. These modes are expected to reduce private vehicle dependency and redistribute traffic volumes across the network.

For traffic originating from or influenced by external corridors such as the Satellite Town Ring Road (STRR) and Peripheral Ring Road (PRR), traffic growth rates have been referred from their respective sanctioned DPRs to ensure harmonised planning across interconnected corridors, it said.

It said that the Metro network along the proposed tunnel alignment will only ease traffic for commuters using public transport or two/three-wheelers for short trips. The proposed tunnel basically caters to enhance level of service for road users with longer trip length predominantly using private car or taxi. Therefore, the proposed network will be supplementing traffic requirement along the corridor along with Metro network and both the system are supplementing to each other rather than competing, it said.

The B-SMILE further stated that an extensive traffic survey was conducted, which included Classified Traffic Volume Counts at nine locations, Turning Movement Counts at seven locations, and Passenger Origin-Destination Surveys at 11 locations and that the traffic has been projected up to the year 2058, covering a 30-year horizon period.

'India is showing that sustainability and progress can go hand in hand'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The ideas coming out of India are shaping the future of clean mobility for the world, said Jan Kuenne, CEO, Grudig Akademie, a German non-profit that focuses on technology training around electrical engineering, environmental and energy here on Tuesday.

"We are not just talking about electric vehicles, we are talking about reimagining how cities move. From digital twins to new mobility systems, India is showing that sustainability and progress can go hand in hand," he said in his keynote address at Global Clean Mobility Summit organised by Micelio Mobility.

"Together, we can create a world where clean, smart, and responsible movement becomes the new normal," he urged a packed audience of clean mobility ecosystem players gathered at the meet.

Mr. Kuenne highlighted the importance of integrated design, data, and investment for sustainable infrastructure.

He also spoke about how discarded cable cars are being repurposed in cities for last-mile logistics and autonomous bicycles developed at MIT Media Lab.

"India stands at a decisive point where clean mobility must evolve from aspiration to acceleration," said Shreyas Shibulal, Founder & Director, Micelio Mobility, an Indian clean mobility ecosystem enabler founded in 2018 to accelerate innovation and collaboration in the electric vehicle (EV) sector.

'Cleaner ecosystem'

"Micelio remains committed to nurturing ideas that can power a cleaner, more connected, and equitable mobility ecosystem for all," said Mr. Shreyas.

Raman C.V, Member of Executive Committee, Maruti Suzuki India, said, "As India aspires to become a developed economy by 2047, mobility will be the catalyst—clean, connected, and customer-centric.'"

Elaborating on Maruti Suzuki's journey he said, "Our 40-year journey from 60 cars per day to 7,000 cars per day to EVs from India to the world is proof that sustained co-creation and reinvestment are key to building lasting value."

Micelio's report

The summit also unveiled Micelio's report "Closing the Loop: Building a Roadmap for Battery Circularity in India', which mapped sustainable supply chains and investment pathways for a truly circular economy.

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Microplastics pollution threatens Goa's estuarine fisheries, human consumers

A study has traced microplastic contamination in fish along the Goan coast; it also analysed factors that increase the uptake of these particles and the resulting risks for fish and human health; scientists examined the habitats and feeding behaviour of 251 fishes belonging to nine species of finfish and shellfish captured from various depths

Sandhya Ramesh

Fishermen cast their nets in the backwaters of the Mandovi river in Goa. FILE

Microplastics in water bodies can be ingested by tiny organisms, which in turn are consumed by larger ones. As a result, the bodies of animals higher up in the food chain accumulate more microplastics and can suffer from amplified toxicity. This phenomenon is called bioaccumulation.

To understand microplastic bioaccumulation along the Goan coast, scientists from the CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography in Goa and the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research in Ghaziabad recently examined the habitats and feeding behaviour of 251 fishes belonging to nine species of finfish and shellfish. These included mackerel, anchovy, oyster, clam, catfish, sardine, and other commercial varieties, which the team captured from various depths in the ocean's water column.

In a study published in *Environmental Research* in August, the team identified 4,871 polluting particles in these fish, of which 3,369 particles were plastic polymers of 19 types. The scientists also found more contamination on the sea floor and in sediments at the bottom of the water column (in the benthic realm) than in the open water column (pelagic realm).

These particles were mainly from degraded fishing material left at sea and wastewater discharged from human settlements.

Based on the findings, the scientists have indicated that the fish are suffering from disrupted gene expression, oxidative stress, reproductive damage, and lower growth. When people eat these fish, according to the team, effects on the human body could include immune dysfunction, higher risk of cancer, and toxicity to the brain.

Five key questions

Fisheries around Goa focus on the estuaries – ecologically critical zones that nourish young fish and which serve as feeding grounds for the older ones. Finfish and shellfish are commonly fished at estuaries. These fish kinds also feature frequently in Indian cuisine because they are accessible, affordable, and are rich in proteins.

Anchovies, sardines, and mackerel are small pelagic fish that play an important role in estuarine ecosystems, feeding on plankton and drawing in larger predatory fish. They are also filter feeders: they trap floating particles in the water and ingest them, and are thus more liable to imbibe microplastics.

These small fish are consumed by other larger ones, which in turn are prey for the elasmobranchs, or cartilaginous fish, including the sharks that dwell in shallow shelf waters. Microplastics thus move all the way up the food chain in a process called trophic transfer, eventually affecting the apex predators and human consumers.

The scientists analysed fish samples only from the Mandovi estuarine system, part of the Mandovi-Zuari system that contributes to 97% of Goa's fish output. They treated the bamboo shark, an apex predator, as the focal species to identify the effects of microplastic accumulation.

The study fills a knowledge gap for five key questions for the region: microplastic contamination quantities in commercial fish, factors that increase the uptake of microplastics in fish, parts of the body that are the primary ingestion pathways, evidence of microplastics through ingestion in the bamboo shark, and risks of microplastic ingestion for fish and human health along the Goan coast.

Many shapes and colours

The scientists analysed 30 members each of mackerels, sardines, anchovies, bamboo sharks, sole fish, catfish, clams, and oysters, plus 11 of the rarer green mussels. These fish were grouped by their feeding levels: filter feeders and planktivores, secondary consumers, and carnivorous consumers. The scientists determined the microplastic concentration in their bodies by assessing the soft tissue.

Their analysis revealed that anchovies had the highest concentration among the pelagic species, at 8.8 microplastic particles per individual (MP/in). The catfish led the benthic realm at over 10 MP/in. The bamboo shark had the least: 3.5 MP/in. The water column itself contained 120 MP/litre.

> Such findings only underscore the urgent need for us to take action to remove plastic, with better waste disposal and new research for biodegradable alternatives
>
> **RAVIDAS K. NAIK**
>
> NATIONAL CENTRE FOR POLAR AND OCEAN RESEARCH

The team found that the longer bodies the fish had, the fewer microplastic particles they accumulated. They also concluded that fish with habitats closer to contaminated sediments on the sea bed ingested more microplastics when they fed.

Among the finfish, the scientists found more microplastics in the digestive tract than in the gills, indicating accumulation through the consumption of contaminated water or prey. (As water moves through the fish, the particles are trapped in the gills and could lead to respiratory issues.)

They also identified four major shape-types of microplastics: fibres (53%), fragments (29.9%), films (13.1%), and beads (4%). Marine animals use colours to detect prey, and the particles came in nine hues: blue (37.6%), black (24.3%), red (12%), discoloured (8.7%), transparent (6.8%), green (4.4%), pink/purple (2.5%), yellow (1.9%), and orange (1.7%).The types and colours of microplastics revealed their sources to be fishing gear, tire residue from roads, e-waste, packaging, and textiles.

Risk assessment

In all, the study categorised the region and ecosystem as low-risk but placed benthic life at more risk than pelagic. The paper also said 11 of the 19 types of polymers identified were highly toxic.The study showed 66 of the 71 shellfish to have poor nutritional statuses. Previous studies have found the direct effects of microplastics on fish include lower fitness, protein, and fatty acids and lower nutritional quality. Indirectly, as the demand for such fish drops in the market, coastal populations could be at risk of losing their livelihoods.

"This is a good study that further supports several other independent findings," Ravidas K. Naik, who also studies microplastics in marine environments at the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research in Vasco da Gama and wasn't affiliated with the study, said.

"There are microplastics in every place on earth, and such findings only underscore the urgent need for us to take action as a society to remove plastic from various environments, with better waste disposal and new research for biodegradable alternatives."

(Sandhya Ramesh is a freelance science journalist. sndhyrmsh@gmail.com)

THE GIST

Researchers identified 4,871 polluting particles, of which 3,369 particles were plastic polymers of 19 types. Researchers found more contamination on the sea floor than in open water. Particles were mainly from fishing material and wastewater

The study indicated that affected fish exhibited disrupted gene expression, oxidative stress, reproductive impairment, and reduced growth. Consumption of these fish by humans may result in immune dysfunction, increased cancer risk, and neurotoxicity

The longer bodies the fish had, the fewer particles they accumulated. Fish with habitats closer to the contaminated sediments on the sea bed ingested more when they fed. Among finfish, more microplastics were found in the digestive tract than in the gills

BIG SHOT

Cows at a farm in New Zealand's Waikato region. Environmental campaigners have accused New Zealand's government of "full-blown climate denial" after it slashed targets on October 12 for the reduction of methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming. AFP

QUESTION CORNER

Snacks and naps

Q: Why do we feel sleepy after a heavy meal?
A: We often feel sleepy after a meal because digestion changes how blood and energy circulate in the body. When we eat, the stomach and intestines start working to break down food and absorb nutrients. To support this work, the body directs more blood towards the digestive organs. As a result, less blood and oxygen reach the brain for a short while and this drop can make us feel drowsy or less alert.

The type of food we eat also affects how sleepy we feel. Meals rich in carbohydrates, such as rice, bread, and sweets, raise the amount of glucose in the blood. The body releases more insulin to use or store this glucose. Insulin, in turn, allows certain amino acids to enter the brain, especially tryptophan.

Once inside, tryptophan helps produce serotonin and melatonin, two compounds that regulate mood and sleep. A heavy meal, therefore, not only diverts blood flow but also increases the level of sleep-inducing hormones.

Large or fatty meals add to this effect because they take longer to digest. The body continues sending blood to the stomach for several hours, keeping energy levels low and slowing down physical activity. Warm environments or a relaxed state after eating can make this drowsiness more intense.
People who eat smaller, balanced meals or include fibre and protein often feel less sleepy because digestion is steadier and blood sugar levels stay stable.

Meals rich in carbohydrates, such as rice, bread, and sweets, raise the amount of glucose in the blood. ZOSHUA COLAH/UNSPLASH

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Nationalised bank cheated of ₹38.2 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Posing as a representative of a city-based real estate firm, a cyber con allegedly duped the staff of a nationalised bank and made away with ₹38.2 lakh recently.

Based on a complaint by Indreesha J., Chief Manager, State Bank of India, the East Division Cybercrime Police, on Monday, registered an FIR charging the accused under various sections of the IT Act and impersonation under the BNS for further investigation.

According to the complaint, the Banasawadi branch of SBI had a city-based real estate developer as their customer since this July, with a provision that the purchaser of the apartment in the project will deposit their consideration and all vendor payment through this account.

Procedure

As per the procedure, on every transaction received, the staff writes mandates or instructions electronically from the authorised representatives of the developer, and then on cross verification if confirmed telephonically with their representatives for authenticity, only then transfer of funds will be done.

"These requests consistently originated from the registered official e-mail ID, and no discrepancy had been observed prior to the fraudulent incident. The account has been in regular operation without any adverse remarks and the customer has maintained a healthy relationship with our branch. Given the regulatory nature of RERA accounts, the bank exercises heightened scrutiny and due diligence in handling all transactions," said the complaint.

However, last Wednesday around 11.01 a.m., the branch received a phone call identifying as the authorised person of the developer by referring an e-mail request for transfer of funds and insisted that the payments be processed urgently to meet the project requirement.

As the payment instructions was received through an e-mail sent from the authorised email account, RTGS transfer for an amount of ₹38.2 lakh was made to the beneficiaries, it added.

The fraud came to light the next day when the authorised representative of the developers contacted the branch and categorically denied having initiated or authorised the transaction.

The police are now trying to track down the accused through the money transactions.

Nigerian nationals arrested for peddling drugs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Electronics City police have arrested a 34-year-old Nigerian national and his female friend on the charge of peddling drugs and recovered 490 g of MDMA crystals and 43 g of cocaine worth ₹2.15 crore.

Based on a tip-off, a team of police caught Okey Samuel, 34, and Q. Topista, 27, with the drugs while they were allegedly waiting for their clients to deliver them.

The duo sourced the drugs from their contacts from outside the State.

'Tantrik' held for cheating

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Hulimavu Police have arrested a 49-year-old 'tantrik' who allegedly cheated people by offering special rituals to "ward off evil and help them multiply their wealth".

The accused, Dadapeer, from Kolar, was arrested from Bannerghatta, where he was allegedly looking for prospective clients to sell the valuables he had stolen.

The police recovered 485.4 gm of gold valuables worth ₹53 lakh, which he had kept at his house in Kolar. He had pawned a part of it.

M. Narayana, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Electronics City division, said the accused used to lure people by saying "a spell of evil has been cast on the house" and offering to ward it off with special rituals that could also multiply their wealth.

A SPACE MARKETING INITIATIVE

"India's greatest strength is its youth, and our mission is to make the Indian economy the third largest in the world": Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, at 21st Convocation 2025

From left to right Commander. V. K. Jaitley, UGC Nominee, Dr. Bharat Bhasker, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, Ph.D. Scholar receiving the degree, Dr. T. R. Paarivendhar, Founder & Chancellor, SRMIST, Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India, Dr. P. Sathyanarayanan, Pro-Chancellor (Academics), SRMIST

Knowledge is the true power that drives innovation, entrepreneurship, science, technology, research, and skill. The future lies in transforming this knowledge into wealth, a principle that holds significance across every field,' emphasised Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India, who was the chief guest during the prestigious 21st Convocation Ceremony held at SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST), Kattankulathur, Chennai.

Prof. Bharat Bhasker, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, was conferred the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) in recognition of their outstanding contributions to science and technology.

Presiding over the ceremony was Dr T. R. Paarivendhar, Founder & Chancellor of SRMIST, who highlighted the institute's commitment to academic excellence and societal impact. This year, a total of 15,105 degrees were awarded, comprising 9,324 males, 5,779 females, and 2 Transgender individuals. The distribution includes 6,686 undergraduate degrees (4,455 males and 2,231 females), 7,938 postgraduate degrees (4,623 males, 3,313 females, and 2 transgender individuals), and 388 doctoral degrees (174 males and 214 females), as well as 11 postgraduate degrees. Diploma (6 males, and 5 females), 82 Diploma (66 males and 16 females). Additionally, 299 rank medallists were honoured, where 214 first-rank holders (52 males and 162 females), 52 second-rank holders (10 males and 42 females), and 33 third-rank holders (13 males and 20 females) celebrated academic excellence across disciplines.

Prof. Bharat Bhasker, Director, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, said, "To the graduating students, I wish to say this: you are the future of this country. India stands at a defining moment of transformation, a transition towards becoming one of the world's largest economies and a global leader. The responsibility of this growth rests on your shoulders."

The Annual Report of the Institution was presented by Prof. C. Muthamizhchelvan, Vice Chancellor, SRMIST, who said, "At SRMIST, diversity and inclusion are central to excellence. Among 15,105 graduates, 55% of Ph.D. graduates and 75% of rank holders are women, and notably, two transgender students graduated this year, a testament to our commitment to celebrate every learner, every journey, and every identity."

Thousands of students received their degrees across diverse disciplines, marking the culmination of years of dedication and academic excellence. Among the rank holders, female graduands stood out across all agriculture programmes, exemplifying the empowerment of women in science and technology. This year also witnessed two transgender students graduating from SRMIST, an inspiring testament to the university's inclusive spirit and commitment to diversity.

The ceremony was a vibrant confluence of tradition, pride, and forward-looking optimism, reaffirming SRMIST's stature as a premier institution shaping the future of education and innovation in India.

Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

GREATER BENGALURU AUTHORITY
And
5 BENGALURU CITY CORPORATIONS

Sri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Bengaluru City Development

Dear Bengalureans,

Biggest Gift to B-Khata Owners of Bengaluru City by Government of Karnataka

B-Khata to A-Khata Conversion & New Sites also get A-Khata

LAUNCH TODAY

How to apply for B-Khata to A-Khata Conversion & A-Khata for New Sites

Up to 2000 sqm

- Login using your Mobile & OTP @https://bbmp.karnataka.gov.in/BtoAKhata
- Enter EPID of your FINAL B-Khata & Fetch
- Aadhaar Authentication of Owners
- Confirm site Location, type of road in front of site
- Both converted & unconverted sites eligible (Flats not eligible)
- Print acknowledgement
- Site visit by city corporations & confirmation
- Pay "Single Plot" approval fee @5% of guidance value of site & other charges
- Automatic Single Plot approval & A-Khata is issued as per eligibility

More than 2000 sqm

- Contact Registered Architect or Engineer
- Apply online @https://bpas.bbmpgov.in for any type of plot
- Upload required documents and CAD drawing
- Pay Initial Scrutiny Fee of Rs. 500
- Submit application online (Flats not eligible)
- Site inspection by visit
- Approval as per eligibility
- Payment of Applicable Fees
- Single Plot Approval Certificate and Drawing issued & A-Khata is issued as per eligibility

The Constitutional Fundamental duty of every Indian is to protect public property and renounce violence

M BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Nationally significant cyberattacks in U.K. from Aug. 2024-2025

204 The U.K. government implored businesses to prioritise cyber security, as major incidents targeting them hit record levels. The National Cyber Security Centre revealed the centre dealt with 204 nationally significant attacks in the 12 months to end of August 2025. AFP

Number of Maoists arrested in the State of Jharkhand

266 A total of 32 Naxalites have been killed, and 30 have surrendered before security forces across Jharkhand this year till September. As many as 157 firearms, 18,884 detonators, 11,950 cartridges, 394.5 kg of explosives and 228 explosive devices were seized. PTI

Investment approved for Google's AI hub in Andhra Pradesh

15 In billion. The AI hub at Visakhapatnam will be Google's largest hub outside the U.S. and will include a 1-gigawatt data centre campus and an expanded fibre-optic network. The announcement was made during Bharat AI Shakti, a precursor event to the India-AI Impact Summit 2026. PTI

The drop in the number of wild elephants in India

18 In per cent. India's wild elephant population has been estimated at 22,446, lower than the 2017 figure of 27,312, as per India's first DNA-based count. The All-India Synchronous Elephant Estimation 2025 puts elephant population between 18,255 and 26,645, with an average of 22,446. PTI

Number of police encounters in Uttar Pradesh since 2017

15,726 The Uttar Pradesh Police has intensified its operations against criminals, neutralising or arresting several wanted suspects in nearly a dozen encounters in the last 20 days, the government said. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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How innovation drives economic growth

Who won the Nobel prize for Economic Sciences this year? What is the difference between propositional knowledge and prescriptive knowledge? What is the theory of creative destruction? How much should a country invest in research and development?

EXPLAINER

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan

The story so far:

On October 13, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced that it had decided to award the 2025 Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences to Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt "for having explained innovation-driven economic growth". One half of the prize goes to Mr. Mokyr, while the other half will be divided between Mr. Aghion and Mr. Howitt.

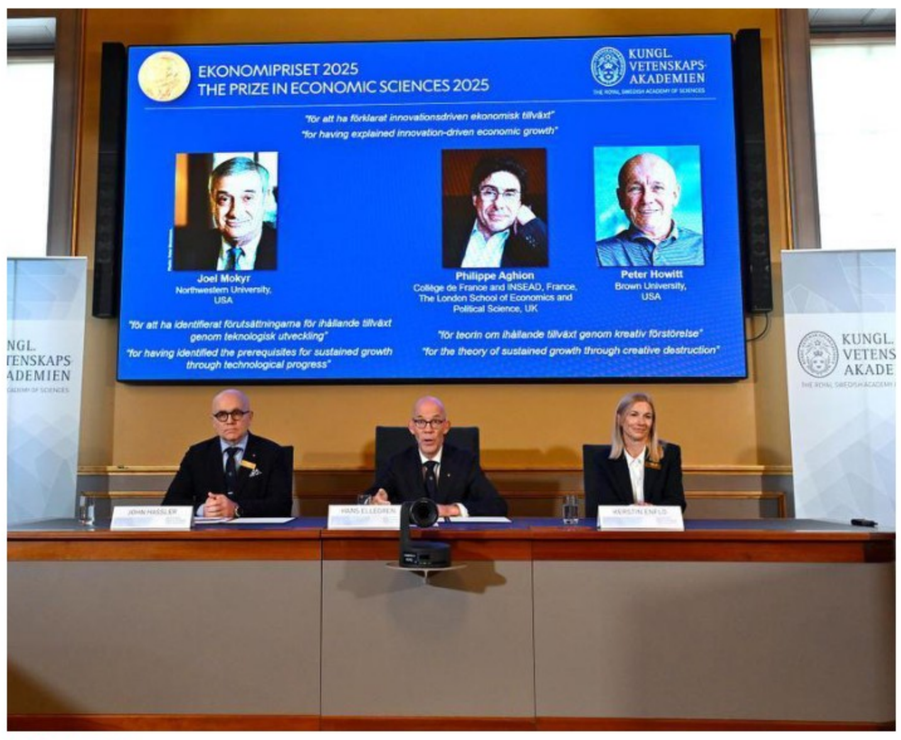
Who are the winners?

Joel Mokyr was born in 1946 in Leiden, the Netherlands. He is currently a professor at Northwestern University. According to the award citation, he won the prize "for having identified the prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress". Philippe Aghion was born in 1956 in Paris, France. He is currently a professor at Collège de France and INSEAD, Paris, and The London School of Economics and Political Science, U.K. Peter Howitt was born in 1946 in Canada and is a professor at Brown University in the U.S. Mr. Aghion and Mr. Howitt jointly won the other half of the award "for the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction".

What was Joel Mokyr's work?

To understand the work of all three economists, one must first understand the fact that global growth has been unusually sustained over the last 200 years, following centuries of stagnation. The work of all three economists, in different ways, tries to answer what happened in the last two centuries that set them apart. This will also help create a model of sorts for sustained growth into the future as well.

Through his research in economic history, Mr. Mokyr showed that a continual flow of "useful knowledge" is necessary for sustained growth. This useful knowledge, he theorised, has two parts: propositional knowledge and prescriptive knowledge. Propositional knowledge basically has to do with looking at the natural world and figuring out why something works. Prescriptive knowledge refers to actual practical instructions, drawings or recipes that describe what is necessary for something to work – like an instruction manual.



Huge honour: Recipients of the Nobel Prize in Economics announced in Stockholm, on October 13. AP

He argued that, prior to the Industrial Revolution, the world's leading innovators had a good command of propositional knowledge. That is, they had strong theories, after observing the world, of why things worked. This propositional knowledge, however, did not rest on a bedrock of prescriptive knowledge. Without the latter, it became next to impossible to build upon existing knowledge. This changed in the 16th and 17th centuries, Mr. Mokyr argued. Scientists started including precise measurement methods and controlled experiments in their work, and began to insist that results be reproducible.

What were implications on policy?

The policy prescription of Mr. Mokyr's research was twofold. The first was that new ideas would become a reality only if practical, technical and commercial knowledge was abundantly available. Without these, he argued that even brilliant ideas such as Leonardo da Vinci's helicopter designs would remain on the drawing board, as they indeed did. He argued that sustained growth first took place in Britain because it was home to many skilled artisans and engineers who were able to transform ideas into practical and commercial products, which was vital in achieving sustained growth. The policy implication from this is that governments must invest heavily in skilling if they want sustained growth. The other factor – and policy prescription – for sustained growth was that society should be open to change. Innovation invariably creates winners, but it also creates losers as new technologies replace existing ones. This can often lead to resistance to change from established interest groups.

What about Aghion and Howitt?

These two economists took the idea of "creative destruction" – where innovation leads to gains, but also the destruction of the incumbents – and created a mathematical model to capture it. They showed, through maths, how technological advancement leads to sustained growth.

The model developed by both of them can be used to analyse whether there is an optimal volume of R&D in society. There are two opposing trends here, as per the developed model. The first trend is that, when a new innovation comes in and replaces another, the benefits from the replaced technology still continue to flow to society, even if the company that developed it is no longer making profits from it. In other words, technology that has been outcompeted has more value for society than for the company that developed it. This makes it imperative that R&D be subsidised. However, the other competing trend is that when a company comes up with an innovation that rises to the top of the chain, it starts receiving bulk of the profits even though the actual improvement might have been only incremental. For society, the gain from this new technology is limited because it is only a relatively small improvement over the older technology. In such a scenario, investments into R&D might be too high. Therefore, under this trend, R&D should not be subsidised.

The answer to the question of how much R&D needs to happen will thus vary depending on the society and economy in question, but the model developed by the two economists lends a lot of insight into how to arrive at this optimal level.

THE GIST

- Joel Mokyr won the prize "for having identified the prerequisites for sustained growth through technological progress".
- Mr. Aghion and Mr. Howitt jointly won the other half of the award "for the theory of sustained growth through creative destruction".
- Through his research in economic history, Mr. Mokyr showed that a continual flow of "useful knowledge" is necessary for sustained growth. Mr. Aghion and Mr. Howitt took the idea of "creative destruction" — where innovation leads to gains, but also the destruction of the incumbents — and created a mathematical model to capture it.

How does Gaganyaan's vital crew escape system work?

Why is a Crew Escape System necessary for human space missions? How has the ISRO tested its CES?

Unnikrishnan Nair S.

The story so far:

The Gaganyaan mission aims to safely transport Indian astronauts to a low-earth orbit of around 400 km altitude using the human-rated LVM3 (HLVM3) rocket as the launch vehicle, and to return them safely. In human space missions, crew safety is more important than mission success. It is imperative that safety is addressed during all phases: launch pad, ascent, orbit, and descent.

What is the CES?

A dedicated Crew Escape System (CES) will be used during the initial part of the atmospheric phase of the Gaganyaan mission to ensure crew safety in the event of a contingency that jeopardises the mission. The CES is designed to rapidly separate the crew module, along with the crew, from a malfunctioning launch vehicle, and move it to a safe distance in the least possible time. The atmospheric phase of flight is one of the most critical stages of the ascent, during which the rocket accelerates to hypersonic speeds – more than five times the speed of sound – and will be experiencing very high structural loads. The HLVM3 rocket is equipped with two powerful S200 solid-fuel boosters to lift off, and unlike liquid or cryogenic engines, solid motors cannot be shut down once they are ignited. Thus, the CES must extract the crew module with greater acceleration than the launch vehicle itself, and in minimal time. In the Gaganyaan mission, the CES could impart acceleration up to 10-times that of gravity. For a healthy human body, such high acceleration is tolerable for a few seconds if the crew is positioned correctly, with the acceleration acting perpendicular to the chest and the body pressed against the seat in a "child in cradle" orientation. Rocket systems are more intricate than those of aircraft, with rocket reliability much lower than that of passenger aircraft. Nevertheless, the CES significantly improves crew survival probability through its heritage-based design, redundant systems, and robust mission planning.

What are different types?

The CES is classified into two types based on the way it extracts the crew module: (i) puller type – used in Gaganyaan, where the CES pulls the crew module away from the launch vehicle; (ii) pusher type – used in vehicles like SpaceX's Falcon 9, where the crew module is pushed away using compact, high-thrust liquid-fuel engines. Both systems have advantages and disadvantages, with the choice depending on propulsion technology and system integration aspects. Once the CES has moved the crew module a safe distance away from the failing vehicle, the module will be released and decelerated by a multistage parachute system. This will reduce the module's velocity in steps, ensuring it splashes down safely in the sea without exceeding the crew's physiological limits upon impact. Typically, the crew will remain inside the module until splashdown. But during the Soviet Union's first human spaceflight, Yuri Gagarin ejected from the Vostok module at approximately 7 km altitude and parachuted safely to the ground.

The Integrated Vehicle Health Management system, which is a network of sensors, electronics, and software, will aid in taking a decision to activate the CES when a contingency arises. It will monitor all vital parameters of vehicle systems and crew health in real time.

Has it been tested?

The ISRO has developed a cost-effective, single-stage Test vehicle powered by the Vikas engine to validate the CES. The first successful test occurred in October 2023, during which the CES was activated when the Test vehicle reached transonic conditions – a critical phase in atmospheric flight when the velocity transitions from subsonic to supersonic. ISRO plans additional Test vehicle flights to simulate other critical ascent trajectory conditions. The CES is a cornerstone of the Gaganyaan programme and reflects ISRO's commitment to astronaut safety.

Unnikrishnan Nair S. is former director, VSSC; Founding Director, HSFC.

THE GIST

- A dedicated Crew Escape System (CES) will be used during the initial part of the atmospheric phase of the Gaganyaan mission to ensure crew safety in the event of a contingency that jeopardises the mission.
- The CES is classified into two types based on the way it extracts the crew module: (i) puller type — used in Gaganyaan, where the CES pulls the crew module away from the launch vehicle; (ii) pusher type — used in vehicles like SpaceX's Falcon 9.
- The ISRO has developed a cost-effective, single-stage Test vehicle powered by the Vikas engine to validate the CES.

"Festive loans: The financial cheer this festive season could be the perfect time to buy your dream home or car"

With the vibrant celebrations of Dussehra and Diwali on the horizon, it's not only homes and streets that are being adorned with lights and decorations – banks are also unveiling attractive offers. This season is financially beneficial for people wishing to purchase a new home, a car, or even a two-wheeler. It is traditionally seen as an auspicious time to make large purchases. With reduced interest rates and special offers, banks are doing everything they can to fulfil your festive fantasies.

It goes without saying that consumers are more likely to invest in long-term assets like real estate or automobiles over the festive season. Banks want to make this simpler on your wallet, whether you're upgrading from a two-wheeler to a stylish automobile or buying that family home you've been admiring. For a brief time, many major banks provide steep discounts on their home loan and auto loan interest rates, making this period the perfect time to act. For example, a number of prominent banks have said that they will be offering lower interest rates on house loans during Dussehra, and this trend is anticipated to persist until Diwali. This might be the ideal time to act. Although purchasing a home can be an intimidating process, the reduced interest rates over this season may alleviate some of the financial strain. Similarly, there are attractive discounts in auto loans for both two-wheelers and four-wheelers, which makes it simpler for customers to take possession of their new vehicle.

A Season of Auspicious Investments

The holiday season holds great cultural and religious significance. It is seen as the ideal moment to make a new investment, whether it is a better vehicle to upgrade your lifestyle or the long-awaited move into property. For people contemplating such significant life decisions, the season becomes even more attractive as banks move forward to offer lower interest rates. Purchasing a house or a vehicle is often a very emotional and personal choice rather than merely a financial one. Festivals lend an even greater sense of significance to these purchases because of their emphasis on prosperity and fresh starts.

Home and Car Loans

Big and small banks alike are competing to provide the most alluring packages. This year, savings on processing costs, longer loan terms, and lower EMIs are among the most sought-after deals. Interest rates on home loans are being lowered from regular rates by certain banks. Vehicle loans are also experiencing reductions, with two-wheeler loans starting at much cheaper rates. Additionally, customers can anticipate unique promotions including expedited loan approvals and extra cashback incentives. These deals are only available for a short time, so if you've been thinking about buying something, now might be the perfect moment.

Planning Your Festive Purchase

Even with the excitement of lower interest rates and the festive cheer, it's important to approach them with a strategic mindset. The first step is to familiarize yourself with the loan terms. With multiple banks offering festive deals, comparing offers can help you find the one that best fits your needs. Fortunately, during this time, lenders compete to provide the most attractive options – some may offer reduced rates, while others might include added perks such as zero processing fees, extended tenures, or even cashback rewards, making this festive season an ideal time to make a financially sound investment. This season's offers truly present a win-win scenario, giving you access to attractive financial solutions that ease your borrowing process while helping you achieve your dreams.

Bright Diwali for Buyers

These days, the festive season is more about securing a brighter financial future than they are about buying new outfits, eating sweets, and celebrating. Therefore, this festive season offers the perfect opportunity to turn your aspirations into reality.

Repco Home Finance

Repco Home Finance Ltd (RHFL) is a professionally managed housing finance company head quartered in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. We were incorporated in April 2000.

We are registered as a housing finance company with the National Housing Bank (NHB). Repco Home Finance is one of the leading housing loan finance companies in India. We offer housing loan products at attractive interests rates.

The salient and unique features of RHFL are innovative loan products, direct customer contact and customer ownership, focus on quality customer servicing, transparency and speed of operations, focus on relatively under-penetrated markets and balanced portfolio mix, robust risk management systems and processes, low cost operations, well recognized brand in south India with an established track record, stable and experienced senior management team. The Company's products have been developed to suit the needs of different customers.

Quota planned for Karnataka students in foreign varsities to be set up in State

The government has proposed this with Lancaster University of United Kingdom, which announced to set up its campus in the city; operations are likely to start from February 2026, while admissions will begin from August/September 2026

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka is planning to provide reservation for poor, meritorious students of Karnataka in the foreign universities to be established in the State.

The government has proposed this with Lancaster University of United Kingdom (U.K.), which announced to set up its campus in Bengaluru recently, and operations are likely to start from February 2026, while admissions will begin from August/September 2026.

M. C. Sudhakar

Discussions held

"Discussions have been held regarding reserving seats for Karnataka students in foreign universities to be established in Karnataka. The universities have responded positively to our request. However, they have requested that the selected students should be given scholarships. We have agreed to this," said Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar, participating in the inauguration of the new academic building at Nrupatunga University on Tuesday. Lancaster is the second foreign university to set up its campus in Karnataka.

The University of Liverpool from U.K. has already signed an agreement with the Karnataka government to set up its campus at KWIN city. Even Imperial College of London has opened its research centre at the Bengaluru City University.

"Lancaster University is planning to operate from a temporary campus located at Electronics City in around 50,000 sq. ft. area and to shift to its own campus in next four years. The university has also requested for a land and other basic facilities at a marginal price. The university will offer courses in Cyber Security, Business, Finance and Accounting," the Minister stated.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, while speaking at the event, said the number of students studying basic Science stream is declining by the day.

"Even those who have studied Science are bound by blind belief and superstition. Basic science education and scientific temper are essential for the progress of society and the country," he added.

Scientific temper

"In the 12th century, Lord Basavanna and his followers raised their voice against caste system. But even today, the caste system is strong in our society. Scientific temper does not entertain the caste system. But some vested interests are preventing caste from being destroyed." The Chief Minister argued that such a system can change only when economic and social empower comes. "It is a tragedy that even those who have studied science do not have a scientific temper. Even doctors, engineers and scientists also believe in fate, karma, and destiny. Teachers in schools and colleges should instill a scientific temper in students," he stated.

'Inequality prevalent'

Further Mr. Siddaramaiah said that even after 78 years of Independence, inequality has not gone away from our society. "Without eliminating inequality, the caste system cannot be eradicated. Without the abolition of the caste system, it is impossible to build a secular society. Our goal is to build an inequality-free and secular society," he said.

Update eligibility criteria for OCI students to enter professional colleges from next year: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) to amend its notification/prospectus from next academic year, clearly indicating that as per the Supreme Court's judgment the Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cardholders born before March 4, 2021, would be treated on a par with Indian citizens for admission to professional courses.

A Division Bench comprising Justice D.K. Singh and Justice Venkatesh Naik T. passed the order while allowing two petitions filed by OCI cardholders, Shreyas C.M. of Bengaluru and Mukul P.K. of Mysuru.

The petitioners had complained that despite the SC's February 2023 judgment in the case of Anushka Rengunthwar and others vs. Union of India on eligibility of OCI cardholders to claim seats under government quota, the KEA's notification/brochure for 2025-26 academic year had stated that "no candidate shall be eligible for admission to government seats, unless he is a citizen of India and satisfies any one of the eligibility condition specified therein."

The KEA's notification had further stated that "the candidates who have not qualified the eligibility criteria are not liable for admission to professional courses under government seats through KEA. Eligibility for OCI/PIO candidates for government seats shall be as per the direction of the government."

Meanwhile, the State government had told the court that the rules on eligibility criteria for admission have been amended in tune with the judgment of the Supreme Court in Anushka Rengunthwar's case, but are yet to be notified.

As the Supreme Court had already decided that OCI cardholders and who were born before March 4, 2021, should be treated as Citizens of India for the purpose of admission, etc., the Bench said that KEA's notification/prospectus on eligibility of OCI students was contrary to the SC's verdict, while directing the latter to amend the notification/prospectus/brochure from next year.

Anti-human trafficking workshop held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The South Western Railway (SWR) and the National Commission for Women (NCW), New Delhi, jointly organised a one-day workshop on "Anti-Human Trafficking" on Tuesday to train and sensitise key stakeholders on preventing, detecting, and responding to human trafficking, with a focus on the critical role of the Railways in addressing the issue.

According to SWR, the workshop was inaugurated by V. Somanna, Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti.

He stressed the need for similar awareness programmes in other major cities.

NCW Chairperson Vijaya K. Rahatkar said, "The MoU between NCW and Indian Railways outlined the four pillars essential to tackling human trafficking: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution, and Partnership." She highlighted 'Operation Matrushakti', which assists women in labour during train journeys.

UGC places public notice against Emversity in abeyance

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following a clarification by Emversity, the University Grant Commission (UGC), on Tuesday, placed its earlier public notice, issued on October 8, 2025, on the grounds of violation of some rules, in abeyance.

Emversity has announced this on its website, stating that it is a private limited company and "has never claimed to be a university, higher-education institution, or degree-awarding body under the UGC Act, 1956."

It further stated, "We act only as an industry partner, providing admissions-marketing support, industry-skilling, and training and placement facilitation under legally permitted arrangements with such universities."

Emversity stated that being an approved training partner of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and a recognised "Institutional Associate" of the Healthcare Sector Skill Council (HSSC), Emversity is "positioned to assist universities with skill training and industry linkages."

In its clarification, Presidency University, Bengaluru, also said that the UGC has placed the public notice in abeyance, following an in-person hearing held with the commission on October 13.

Emversity submitted a detailed representation clarifying the operating model and role as an industry-skilling partner.

"After reviewing the same, the UGC has accepted clarifications and placed the earlier public notice in abeyance. It has been taken down from the UGC website and is no longer active," Presidency University stated.

Social and Educational Survey: Salaries of 2,300 enumerators to be withheld owing to absence

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Commissioner of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) M. Maheshwar Rao issued orders directing that the salaries of about 2,300 enumerators be withheld for the period of their unauthorised absence from the ongoing Social and Educational Survey, under the "no work, no pay" rule. The action, the Chief Commissioner on Tuesday said, follows repeated notices and reminders to the enumerators who failed to report for duty despite being assigned survey work. Officials called this gross misconduct, pointing out that the government has taken a serious note of the absence.

Around 21,000 enumerators within Bengaluru were appointed for the survey exercise, of which more than 18,000 are said to be working.

Pregnant women, women with infants below one year, and those facing serious medical conditions were exempted from field duty.

However, officials said around 2,300 enumerators remained absent without valid reasons despite repeated SMS reminders and written instructions.

Mr. Rao directed the absentee staff to immediately resume work and complete the survey of their allotted households.

Further orders, disciplinary action, including suspension, may also be initiated if the enumerators continue to fail to report for duty, the GBA Chief Commissioner said.

Police raid BPO firm, unearth year-old cyber crime racket

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The staff were trained in cyber fraud and engaged in a criminal conspiracy to collect information from individuals online

The HSR Layout police busted a 'reverse digital arrest' racket after raiding a BPO company in Bengaluru where 16 trained staff allegedly threatened citizens of the U.S. and Canada with drug and money laundering cases before taking money from them on the pretext of helping them. The BPO had been reportedly operating for over one year.

Based on credible information, a team of officials raided the call centre and arrested the staff who were trained in online cyber fraud and engaged in a criminal conspiracy to collect information from unsuspecting individuals online.

Briefing the media on Tuesday, City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said that the accused were posing as U.S. enforcement agency officials. The accused, under the pretext of 'helping' their victims, would demand money online to 'settle' the matter, illegally obtaining large sums of money through cyber crime.

Based on this information, the HSR Layout police registered a *suo motu* case. The Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-east Division) directed the HSR Layout Police Station and CEN Police Station, South-east division to investigate.

During the investigation, police visited the BPO. The accused, who are high school and college dropouts from different parts of India, revealed that they had found job offers on WorkIndia, LinkedIn, and similar websites, which advertised openings in BPOs providing online services to the U.S., Canada, and other countries.

The company managers had allegedly lured job seekers by promising free accommodation and work opportunities in Bengaluru. They arranged accommodation at HSR Layout and BTM Layout, as well as cab and food facilities.

After three weeks of tele-caller training, employees were instructed to call customers in the U.S. using U.S. law enforcement names such as 'U.S. Federal Investigation Service', 'U.S. Postal Service Investigation Section', and some other non-existent agencies.

Through a live server provided by the company, they would speak to victims, accuse them of being involved in criminal cases, show fake police IDs, and demand money in exchange for avoiding 'arrest'. The defrauded amounts were deposited in the company's wallets or bank accounts.

When investigators examined the computer systems, they found that the accused were using fake 'digital arrest scripts', multiple online calling tools and fake websites to contact U.S. citizens, deceive them, and extort money.

The electronic devices and materials used for the crime were seized, including 41 computer systems (41 monitors, 40 CPUs, 41 mice, 41 keyboards, 41 VGA cables, 82 power cables, 21 LAN cables), 2 attendance registers and 4 script notebooks, 25 mobile phones and ID cards,1 IP device, 4 routers, and 4 modems.

In total, 16 accused from Maharashtra (8), Meghalaya (4), Odisha (1), Madhya Pradesh (1), West Bengal (1), and Gujarat (1) were arrested.

The accused had rented a commercial building and two paying guest accommodation for the last two years.

They are suspected of cheating many U.S. citizens of several crores of rupees. The accused staff would be given incentives based on the amount they got from their victims.

Though the police claim it is one of the biggest international cyber crime rackets busted, they are yet to get the victims to file complaints to proceed with legal action.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 15	
RISE 06:10	SET 18:01
RISE 00:56	SET 14:03
THURSDAY, OCT. 16	
RISE 06:10	SET 18:00
RISE 01:52	SET 14:46
FRIDAY, OCT. 17	
RISE 06:10	SET 18:00
RISE 02:43	SET 15:24

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	30	20

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be comfortabe. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Spell of light to moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client is desirous of purchasing all that piece and parcel of Portion of Survey No.133/4 measuring 1 Acre 15.8 Guntas inclusive of 1.80 Guntas of kharab situated at Nettigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property"**. It is hereby understood by us that **Mr. Lokesh son of late N Muniraju** is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s or banks asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever with respect to the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any over the Schedule Property. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing together with any documentary proof of such claim/s or objections and is to be submitted to the undersigned within a period of **15 (fifteen) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner has/have any right, title, interest or claim/s to the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Portion of **Survey No.133/4** measuring **1 Acre 15.8 Guntas** inclusive of **1.80 Guntas of kharab** situated at **Nettigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** bounded on:- **East by : Road; West by : Remaining portion in Survey, No. 133/4; North by : Remaining portion in Survey No. 133/4; South by : Land in Survey No. 133/1;**

Sreedevi Nadig, Advocate
Nadig Legal
No.20, Bhudevi, 33rd main,
Banagiri Hills, Bengaluru 560085
(+91 9916446858)
sreedevi.a.nadig@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 15-10-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client propose to purchase a site i.e., the Schedule Property from **Smt. ANITHA VENUGOPAL JAMUNA alias ANITHA. V. J,** Aged about 46 years, W/o. Sri. Alagiriswamy Santhalingam alias S. Alagiriswamy, Residing at No.43/1, 2nd Main Road, Chamarajpet, BANGALORE- 560018 and she represented to my client that she is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property described below with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same and no other person/s has/have any right, title, interest or claim of whatsoever over the same and the property is free from all encumbrances, charges, mortgage and lien and she or her power of attorney holder has not entered into any Agreement for Sale or any other commitment in respect thereof.

Any person having any right, title, interest or whatsoever claim against the Schedule Property or having any objection of whatsoever nature to the proposed transaction may, within **10 DAYS** hereof, lodge with us his/her/their/its claim in writing in this behalf with the relevant documentary proof in support of such right, title, interest or claim or objection. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, my client will presume that no person has any such claim and will proceed with the transaction.

: SCHEDULE PROPERTY :

All that piece and parcel of the Vacant Property Site bearing **No.952,** formed by the Bangalore Development Authority in **1st Block of Gnanabharathi Layout, Valagerahalli, Bangalore** and presently the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.130, Bangalore has assigned as Property No.952/952, e-PID No.2086387758 and the site measuring East to West: 12.19 Meters or 40'-0" feet and North to South: 9.14 Meters or 30'-0" feet, totally measuring **1200 Sq.ft., or 111.41 Sq. Mtrs.,** and bounded on the :- **East by : Road; West by : Site bearing No.945; North by : Site bearing No.953; South by : Site bearing No.951;**

Srinivasa S.A., Advocate
No.79/B, 7th Main, 50 feet Road,
BSK 1st Stage, Bangalore-560 050.
Mob: 9008003449
E-mail : srinilegals@gmail.com
Place : Bangalore Date : 15-10-2025

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THIS PUBLIC notice corrects the father's name of Sonika P (Roll No: 1255604/054) in her ICSE Pass Certificate Cum Statement of Marks (No. TY 40045474) and ICSE Certificate of Migration (No. MC 1250028433). The name was incorrectly recorded as Pradeep Kumar. The correct name is Pradeep Kumar S, S/o Late Siddashetty C. This is confirmed by Affidavit No. IN–KA29075304861739X, dated 28/08/2025. All concerned authorities and public may note the correction. Bengaluru –560067

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, SUNILKUMAR s/o Basavantarao Sulibhavi, r/o:789, Ward–3, Basakod, Bijapur, Vijayapura, Blr – 586116. Have changed my name as Sunilkumar Sulibhavi vide affidavit on 11/10/25.

I, SUJAY Sulibhavi s/o Sunilkumar Sulibhavi, r/o:789, Ward–3, Basakod, Bijapur, Vijayapura, Blr – 586116. Have changed my name as Sujay Sunilkumar Sulibhavi vide affidavit on 11/10/25.

I, Service No. 14661110Y Rank : HAV, Name: Kempanna Bhimannavar (presently posted in 515 army Base Workshop Bengaluru) resident of No. 46, Naikwadi, Taluk Gokak, Konnur (Rural) Maradimath Post, Belgaum District, Karnataka- 591 231 have changed my minor son's name from Basuraja to Basavaraj Bhimannavar Vide Affidavit Dated: 13-10-2025 Before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, HEENA Kousar Azeez d/o Kareem Majeed Azeez, r/o: Flat No–2FE, Opp Opera White House, Near Sports Arena Jyothi Nagar, Bohra Layout, gottigere, Blr–560083. Have changed my name as Heena Kousar. Vide affidavit on 10/10/25.

I, Junaid Joel Mir S/O, Jacky Fegradoe R/o No 38 1st (Main Road Chandra Reddy Layout S T Bed Koramangala Bangalore -560047 have changed my name to JJ Joel Fegradoe for all purposes.

I, Service No. 14661110Y Rank: HAV, Name: Kempanna Bhimannavar (presently posted in 515 army Base Workshop Bengaluru) resident of No. 46, Naikwadi, Taluk Gokak, Konnur (Rural) Maradimath Post, Belgaum District, Karnataka- 591 231 have changed my minor daughter's name from Jaishree to Jayashri Bhimannavar Vide Affidavit Dated: 13-10-2025 Before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed

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AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION
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www.vignanits.ac.in *Sd/- Principal*
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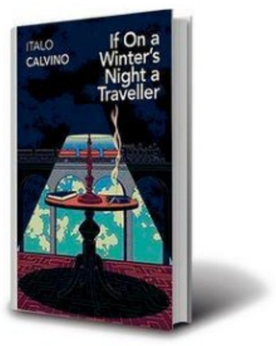

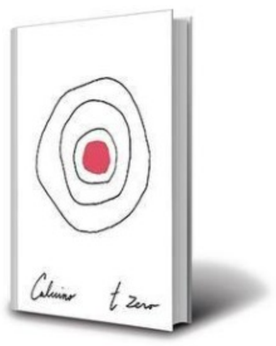

Italo Calvino in Rome, December 1984. GETTY IMAGES

Author and algorithm: Calvino, cybernetics, and ghosts in the machine

What lies underneath the warm rapport between writer and reader? On Italo Calvino's birthday, we re-read his work to understand the logic of storytelling, the hidden design of language, the limitations of machines and why they can never replicate human imagination

Jonathan Koshy Varghese

Somewhere in the middle of *If on a winter's night a traveller* (1979), Italo Calvino (October 15, 1923-September 19, 1985) writes something quietly profound about our relationship with words: "It is only through the confining act of writing that the immensity of the nonwritten becomes legible." Writing, he suggests, is a way of mapping the frontiers of what cannot yet be said. The writer becomes a guide, giving form to formless, and likely elusive ideas, turning them into something perceptible. Into something realisable. Writers dream, and we, caught in their dreaming, learn how to dream.

And as readers, we follow the written word with a covenantal faith, both restless and patient, guided by the hope that somewhere within another's words we might find the faint outline of our own.

The literature machine

Yet Calvino knew that underneath this warm rapport between writer and reader lay a structure, an inherent and incipient machinery of language itself. In his celebrated lecture, Cybernetics and Ghosts (1967), delivered a decade earlier, he stripped away the aura of inspiration, describing writing instead as a play of patterns, as a combinatorial art. The first storyteller of the tribe, he proposed, was already performing a kind of computation, testing how words might fit together to mirror the world. He owed his hypothesis to the works of Vladimir Propp, whose studies of Russian folktales disclosed their narrative structures, and to Claude Lévi-Strauss, whose analysis of Brazilian indigenous myths illuminated the underlying logic of storytelling.

Calvino's influences range from the French avant-garde journal *Tel Quel* to Noam Chomsky and A. J. Greimas. Between them, he discerned an intangible and perhaps hidden design in language. He called this schema the literature machine. This machine, Calvino declared, performs all the permutations possible. It exhibits the desire to build, from its finite materials, a space where meaning might take root. Yet, Calvino insists, perhaps with hope, that the telling of the story demands a human medium: a consciousness whose depths and contradictions shape the arrangement of these combinations. This figure, the storyteller, consecrates the machine's output with intention and desire. The storyteller stitches the individual and the social into a distinct fabric.

In our own times, the idea of the machine, if any, is no longer elusive. What Calvino once imagined as metaphor has taken form in algorithms adept enough to engender stories, poems, and voices that mimic humans. Expectedly the question has resurfaced: where, in this vast mechanism of language, does the storyteller stand? The programs we build can perform permutations, but they cannot, as Calvino said, consecrate them. ChatGPT has studied the contours of syntax, but it has not taught itself the burden of human experience. It can simulate the pattern of human reason, but it cannot grasp the soundness of our unreason. And if it can perceive our flaws, it does not, one is convinced, understand them. For it can never know what it can neither experience nor understand – human failure. It is programmed to be infallible. And in that perfection, it is bereft of the very thing that lends meaning to a story, that imparts to our greatest stories their enduring depth. Nevertheless, not all would agree.

Imagination and intelligence

For a long time, we have been fascinated by representations of machines as humans. One thinks of Mamoru Oshii's *Ghost in the Shell* (1995), Wachowskis' apocalyptic visions in *The Matrix* series, or more recent productions such as *The Creator* (2023). These productions explore the liminality between human and machine, repeatedly raising questions about consciousness. All of them are animated by an anxiety rooted in human arrogance: the dread of obsolescence, the possibility of being overcome by a superior form of intelligence.

Since Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (1818), this fear has persisted at the limits of our imagination. She popularised the archetype of the creator who feared and resented his creation. It is a schema that has come to be reiterated through gothic and science-fiction narratives ever since, shaping the stories we tell about machines. Time and again, biblical catastrophe, punctuated by moral reckoning, is endlessly reshaped and retold: the human mind confronted with a reflection of its own power and its own fallibility, the familiar terror of displacement and the enduring question of what it means to be truly alive. The advent of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is habitually cast in apocalyptic terms.

On reading

Calvino, however, is not concerned with the apocalypse. Where Shelley's creator feared being undone by his own creation, Calvino turns the focus toward the authorial encounter with the reader. Having dismantled the authority of the author, as Roland Barthes did in *The Death of the Author*, Calvino turns his attention to the reader. In Cybernetics and Ghosts, he reminds us that a text comes fully alive only in the mind of the reader, who navigates it independently, shaping its meaning beyond the author's intent. This guiding idea informs the architecture of his *t zero* (1967) and finds expression in his regard for Jorge Luis Borges' *The Garden of Forking Paths* (1941), in which the narrative forms a network of endless semantic potential. This preoccupation reaches its fullest expression in *If on a winter's night a traveller*, where the reader becomes the protagonist, the very centre of a narrative that unfolds endlessly. Calvino termed it a hyper-novel. Here, literature achieves its depth, its critique, and its humanity through the unpredictable, conscious, and reflective mind that inhabits it. Consciousness, it would seem, has ousted the writing machine.

In the time of AI and ruthless optimisations, writing has changed. So has reading. Calvino's words, however, call for interim pauses. And in these pauses, between the author and the reader, between the finite design and infinite interpretation, he invites us to regard the perseverance of human imagination, the very thing machines, however sophisticated, cannot replicate.

The writer teaches Literature at Lady Shri Ram College. He is associated with the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales.

Language in conversation

Vaishali R. Venkat

"Hi, Magi. Your eyes look so sunken! Are you binge-watching?"

"No, Millie. I was surfing the net looking for something fun and enlightening. But alas! I ended up reading only about disasters, accidents, downfalls, scandals, and heartbreaks."

"Magi, looks like the little imp in you has been at work. It has unleashed the devil of non-stop 'doomscrolling'."

"Hey, wait. Devil, doom what? Do you mean my phone is possessed?"

"No, Magi, your phone isn't possessed. You are the one who's trapped in the world of doomscrolling. It means endlessly scrolling through bad news online, even if it makes you petrified. By the way, mere doomscrolling won't keep the apocalypse from knocking at your door, Magi!"

"Doomscrolling! There's a name for a hopeless addict like me."

"You're not alone. Many have jumped onto the bandwagon of this midnight misery. In fact, Oxford added the word in its dictionary too."

"Great, Millie! So how do I use 'doomscrolling' in a sentence?"

"You can use 'doomscrolling' as both a verb and a noun."

"Let's first discuss it as a noun, Millie."

"The word 'doomscrolling' is a gerund. Gerunds are verbs ending in '-ing', but they act as nouns in a sentence. They can function as a subject, an object, or as a complement."

"Please give me examples."

"As a subject, you can say – Doomscrolling is dangerous to mental health. As an object – I can't control my doomscrolling at all. As a complement – The favourite hobby of millennials is doomscrolling."

"Let's proceed to the verb now."

"As a verb, it's simple, Magi. You have five inflectional forms: doomscroll, doomscrolls, doomscrolled, doomscrolling and doomscrolled."

"But wait ... what are inflectional forms, Millie?"

"Inflectional forms are the different versions of a verb that show tense, number, or person. Essentially, they're just modified forms of a verb created by adding a few suffixes. For example, let's take 'doomscroll': doomscroll is the base form; doomscrolls – third-person singular present; doomscrolled – simple past; doomscrolling – present participle/gerund; and doomscrolled – past participle."

"So much in verbs!"

"Yes, Magi. Whenever you come across a new verb, you must learn it along with all its inflectional forms. Otherwise, there's no point in learning the verb."

"Have you learnt verbs this way?"

"Oh, yes! In fact, I used to mark all the inflectional forms of verbs on a folded sheet, like a scroll from the kingdoms long ago. I still have a few dusty ones at home."

"What's this scroll in the kingdom you're talking about?"

"The scroll I mean is more like an old-time news bulletin, which kings used to announce events. It was a piece of paper or parchment, rolled up or folded – almost like a royal tweet of its time!"

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

A.P.J Abdul Kalam was born on this day in 1931. Here is a quiz on the scientist and former President of India

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
What is the title he was mainly associated with?

QUESTION 2
It is said that Kalam narrowly missed out on this ambition of his as he was placed ninth in qualifiers, and only eight positions were available in the said field. What was it?

QUESTION 3
In 1969, Kalam transferred to ISRO where he became the project director of India's first satellite launch vehicle which successfully deployed which satellite in near-earth orbit in July 1980?

QUESTION 4
What are Kalam-Raju stents and Kalam-Raju tablets?

QUESTION 5
According to what he has stated, what was the toughest decision he had to take during his tenure as the President?

Visual question:
Identify this person. How was she associated with Abdul Kalam?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The Cuban Missile Crisis started because Fidel Castro had agreed to host Soviet missiles after the failed ___ __ ____ attack in 1961. **Ans: Bay of Pigs**
2. The crisis was resolved when Khrushchev agreed to withdraw the missiles from Cuba in exchange for the U.S. pledging to not do this. **Ans: Invade Cuba**
3. U.S. President John F. Kennedy secretly agreed to remove 15 Jupiter missiles his government had installed here by March 1962. **Ans: Turkey**
4. One of the more popular outcomes of the Cuban Missile Crisis was the nuclear _____. **Ans: Hotline**
5. The crisis prompted the Partial Test Ban Treaty, which would prevent _____ nuclear testing. **Ans: Atmospheric**
Visual: The name given to the scandal involving a KGB member who defected to the U.S. in 1961. **Ans: Martel affair (Sapphire affair)**
Early Birds: Erfanally Oosmany| Sudhir Thapa| Sujith.B| Aaradhya Yadav| Sunil Madhavan

Word of the day

Prognostication:
a sign of something about to happen; a statement made about the future; knowledge of the future (usually said to be obtained from a divine source)

Synonyms: omen, forecasting, foretelling, prediction, prophecy

Usage: *The goal of his prognostication was not to frighten but to warn.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/prognosticationpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /prɒgnɒstɪkeɪʃən/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Bengaluru to get 35-petaflop supercomputer from C-DAC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru will soon get a 35-petaflop supercomputer, a high-capacity computing machine, currently being built by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). A petaflop is a unit of measurement for computer processing speed, representing one quadrillion floating-point operations per second.

Over 3,000 servers

"The installation will comprise over 3,000 servers working in unison. It is currently undergoing final testing to ensure all systems and utilities are fully functional and benchmarks expected to be completed before its official launch later this year," said Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology Secretary S. Krishnan, who was speaking at a curtain-raiser of Supercomputing India Summit, 2025.

According to Mr. Krishnan, the supercomputer will play a key role in research, innovation, high-performance computing, quantum computing and artificial intelligence. And, when fully operational, it will enable high-end simulations and scientific research projects in partnership with the industry and academia.

'Multinational technology firms such as NVIDIA, Intel, and AMD were expected to provide initial guidance and support'

Responding to a query on the benefit of supercomputing missions, Mr. Krishnan said the supercomputing mission has already shown tangible results. During the COVID-19 pandemic, simulations on the Param Siddhi AI supercomputer helped identify the potential of an ayurvedic drug against the virus. Collaborations with industry partners, including Lupin Pharma, have leveraged high-performance computing for drug discovery and other research initiatives.

Outlay for mission

Mr. Krishnan further said that the exact government outlay for the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM 2.0), with a focus on AI and semiconductor technology, was yet to be finalised and funding would combine government support with other mechanisms. Multinational technology firms such as NVIDIA, Intel, and AMD were expected to provide initial guidance and support, Mr. Krishnan said.

Under NSM, 37 supercomputers with a cumulative capacity of 39 petaflops have already been commissioned across academic and research institutions, empowering scientists, engineers and students with cutting-edge computational resources.

Hosting global event

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Magesh E., Director General, C-DAC, said India, for the first time, would host the global event, Supercomputing, between December 9 and 13 at the Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT) in the city. The theme, 'Powering the Future: High Performance Computing, AI and Quantum Computing', was designed to align with the country's flagship initiative, The National Supercomputing Mission, which had a mandate to build a network of high-performance super computers for research, innovation and national development, he said.

Narayana Health pact with firm on medical deliveries by drone

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Airbound, a Bengaluru-based autonomous delivery logistics firm, has entered into a pilot partnership with Narayana Health for undertaking medical deliveries using drones.

During the three-month pilot partnership, Airbound aims to undertake 10 medical deliveries per day including blood samples, test kits, and essential supplies.

Critical requirement

"Our partnership with Narayana Health validates that our approach can handle the most critical delivery requirements while demonstrating the cost advantages that will make our service accessible globally," said Airbound founder and CEO Naman Pushp.

Airbound said that this programme provides a high-stakes proof of concept for one of the most demanding delivery applications, demonstrating reliability, speed and cost efficiency.

"Our partnership with Airbound allows us to pilot a promising technology that could significantly improve the speed and reliability of medical deliveries. This initiative reflects our commitment to leveraging technology to better serve patients, particularly in areas where timely access to critical diagnostics and supplies can make a life-saving difference," Devi Shetty, founder and chairman, Narayana Health, said. Airbound's drones can achieve a payload-to-aircraft mass ratio of 1 kg to 1.5 kg.

During the three-month pilot partnership, Airbound aims to undertake 10 medical deliveries per day

"The unique blended-wing-body tailsitter design combines vertical takeoff and landing with the aerodynamic efficiency of fixed-wing flight, overcoming the limitations of tilt-rotor and quadplane designs," it said.

Seed funding

The firm on Tuesday also announced $8.65 million seed funding led by Lachy Groom (co-founder, Physical Intelligence), with participation from Humba Ventures, Lightspeed Venture Partners, and senior leaders from Tesla, Anduril and Ather Energy.

Following this, Airbound has raised over $10m in total funding.

The company said it plans to use the capital to scale manufacturing, expand operations beyond medical delivery, refine its technology, and prepare for wider market adoption in 2026.

"Insights from the Narayana Health pilot will inform future logistics solutions, reduce delivery costs, and accelerate adoption across industries," it said.

THE HINDU OPPORTUNITIES

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1	Engineering Assistant Trainee (EAT)	3 Years Diploma in Engineering	Electronics	12	UR-6 OBC NCL-2 SC-2 EWS-2	28 Years	Grade :WG-VII/ CP-VI
			Computer Science	2	UR-1 OBC NCL-1		Pay scale : Rs.24,500-3%-Rs.90,000/- +admissible allowances
			Electrical	1	UR-1		
			Mechanical	7	UR-2 OBC NCL-2 SC-2 EWS-1		
2	Technician 'C'	SSLC + ITI + one year National Apprenticeship Certificate Course	Electronic Mechanic	15	UR-6 OBC NCL-4 EWS-3 SC-2		Grade :WG-IV/ CP-V
			Electrician	1	UR-1		Pay scale : Rs. 21,500-3%-Rs. 82,000/- +admissible allowances
			Fitter	11	UR-2 OBC NCL-3 SC-3 EWS-2 ST-1		

Online Application starts from 09th Oct 2025 to 30th Oct 2025. For further details and authentic information on recruitment in BEL, please visit CAREERS link on the official BEL Website https://www.bel-india.in only.

SR. DGM(HR&A), BEL-GAD

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1	Engineering Assistant Trainee (EAT)	3 years Diploma in Engineering from a recognized Institution	Diploma (Electronics)	04	Nil
			Diploma (Mechanical)	04	
			Diploma (Electrical)	01	
			Diploma (Civil)	01	
			Total	**10**	
2	Technician 'C'	SSLC + ITI + one year Apprenticeship OR SSLC +3 years National Apprenticeship Certificate Course.	ITI (Electronics Mechanic)	03	
			ITI (Fitter)	01	
			Total	**04**	

For detailed advertisement and last date to apply, please visit **"Careers"** section at **www.bel-india.in**

Sd/-
ADDL. GEN. MANAGER (HR&A)

'Har Ek Kaam Desh Ke Naam'

BHARAT ELECTRONICS LIMITED
(A Govt. of India Enterprise under the Ministry of Defence)
(CIN: L32309KA1954GOI000787)

Tech-Perfect Solutions for the Nation's Defence

Bharat Electronics Limited, a Navaratna Company and India's premier Defence Electronics Company requires the below mentioned Non-Executives for its Chennai Unit :

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Qualification	Trade / Discipline	No. of posts	Experience
1	Engineering Assistant Trainee (EAT)	3 years Diploma in Engineering from a recognized Institution	Diploma (Electronics)	04	Nil
			Diploma (Mechanical)	04	
			Diploma (Electrical)	01	
			Diploma (Civil)	01	
			Total	**10**	
2	Technician 'C'	SSLC + ITI + one year Apprenticeship OR SSLC +3 years National Apprenticeship Certificate Course.	ITI (Electronics Mechanic)	03	
			ITI (Fitter)	01	
			Total	**04**	

For detailed advertisement and last date to apply, please visit **"Careers"** section at **www.bel-india.in**

Sd/-
ADDL. GEN. MANAGER (HR&A)

'Har Ek Kaam Desh Ke Naam'

To Advertise in The Hindu Opportunities column, Please contact, gurunathareddy.s@thehindu.co.in or Ph: 9845529981

GENERAL

MOIL LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
MOIL Bhawan, 1-A, Katol Road, Nagpur – 440013
Website: www.moil.nic.in | Telefax: 0712-2592073 | CIN:L99999MH1962GOI012398

RECRUITMENT NOTICE FOR VARIOUS POSTS

MOIL Ltd, Miniratna Category-I, schedule "A "CPSE under Ministry of Steel, Govt. of India, invites applications as under:

Sr. No.	Name of Post	No. of Posts
	DIRECT RECRUITMENT	
1.	Electrician–III (NE–03)	15
2.	Mechanic –Cum–Operator(Fitter) Gr–III (NE–03)	35
3.	Mechanic–Cum–Operator(Welder) Gr–III (NE–03)	04
4.	Mine Foreman–I (NE–08)	09
5.	Select Grade Mine Foreman (NE–09)	05
6.	Mine Mate–I (NE–05)	23
7.	Blaster–II (NE–04)	08
	INTERNAL RECRUITMENT	
1.	Electrician–III (NE–03)	06
2.	Mechanic –Cum–Operator (Fitter) Gr–III (NE–03)	15
3.	Mechanic–Cum–Operator (Welder) Gr–III (NE–03)	02
4.	Mine Foreman–II (NE–07)	06
5.	Trainee Mine Mate–II (NE–04)	10
6.	Trainee Blaster–III (NE–03)	04

For details log on to our website **www.moil.nic.in** on the link "Recruitment". Any amendment/modification relating to this advertisement will be notified on MOIL's website only. The online application portal will remain open for the period from **17/10/2025** to **06/11/2025**.

Jt. General Manager (Pers.)

(हर एक काम, देश के नाम) (MOIL–Adding Strength to Steel)

विशाखापत्तनम पोर्ट प्राधिकरण
VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY
VISAKHAPATNAM

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL DIVISION
EMPLOYMENT NOTICE NO. C2/05/2025, DT: 01.10.2025

Visakhapatnam Port Authority requires Fire Officer on Contract basis to work in Marine Department, initially for a period of one year on the terms and conditions specified for engagement of Fire Officer on payment of consolidated monthly remuneration as follows:

1.	Name of the Post	Fire Officer on contract
2.	No. of Posts	1 (One)
3.	Age	Below 40 years
4.	Remuneration (Consolidated)	Rs. 60,000/- (per month)

For further details of Employment Notice may visit careers section of VPA website : **www.vizagport.com**
Last date for receipt of the applications **on or before 01-12-2025**

SECRETARY

KERALA SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
(An Autonomous Institution jointly established by the Science and Technology Department, Government of Kerala and the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India)
Kunnamangalam PO, Kozhikode, Kerala, India, Pin: 673 571
Ph: 0495 2809000, Email: director@ksom.res.in

RECRUITMENT OF REGISTRAR

No. KSOM/62/2025-AO Dated : 13-10-2025

The Kerala School of Mathematics invites applications for the permanent position of **Registrar - 1 Post [Pay Scale - Rs. 95,600 - 1,53,200].** Eligible candidates may apply as per the prescribed format available on the official website. For details regarding qualifications, age limit, and application procedure, please visit: **https://ksom.res.in/opportunities/careers/**

Last date for submission of online application is **10 December 2025.**

Director, KSoM

GENERAL

राष्ट्रीय इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी एवं सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, कालीकट
National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology, Calicut
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय /
Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology,
भारत सरकार / Government of India

Advt.No. 3(133)/97/Contract/RECTT/2025/12

REQUIREMENT OF
FACULTY & RESOURCE PERSON (ADMN)
Last date for Submission of application : 31.10.2025

हम भारत सरकार के इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय द्वारा प्रायोजित एनडीयू कार्यक्रमों और ईईएलटीपी और डीजीई परियोजना के लिए अनुबंध के आधार पर परिणाम उन्मुख और गतिशील व्यक्तियों की तलाश कर रहे हैं।

We are looking for result oriented & dynamic persons on contract basis to work for the NDU Programs and EELTP & DGE Project sponsored by Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology, Govt. of India.

For details you may visit our website
https://nielit.gov.in/calicut/recruitments
Phone : 0495 - 2287266

EdCIL (India) Limited
A "MINI RATNA" CATEGORY-I CPSE OF GOVT. OF INDIA
EdCIL House, 18A, Sector-16A, NOIDA-201301 (UP) Tel: 0120-4516001-002, 4154003 2970206, 2970207, E-mail: edcilsupport@edcil.co.in

TENURE BASED POSITIONS (RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT-HR / RECTT. / ADVT. / 2025/03)

EdCIL invites applications from highly competent, experienced and self-motivated candidates with a passion for excellence for the post of **Executive Director (Corporate Planning) at E-7 grade in IDA Pay Scale of ₹ 1,00,000 – 2,60,000 on a Tenure Track initially for a period of 5 years, further extendable for 2 years or as per performance of the official.**

The comprehensive experience criteria may be verified with the terms & conditions of eligibility in the detailed advertisement on EdCIL's website. All amendments, time extension, clarifications, etc will be uploaded in the website only and will not be published in newspapers. Candidate should regularly visit EdCIL's website to keep themselves updated.

Those fulfilling the eligibility criteria are invited to apply online on the **"CAREERS"** section of EdCIL website: **www.edcilindia.co.in**.

GENERAL

VIS
Vellore International School
Chennai

A VIT Group Institution

An International residential Co-educational School in Chennai for CISCE/CAMBRIDGE

Vellore International School (VIS) is seeking passionate and dedicated educators to join our team for the 2026–2027 academic year. We emphasize a holistic learning approach that nurtures personal growth, academic excellence, and cultural understanding.

Academic positions

Secondary Level *(Grade 9-12)*
- English
- Hindi
- Mathematics
- Geography
- History
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology
- Business Studies & Accountancy
- Economics
- Computer Science
- Fine/ Performing Arts
- Physical Education
- EVS/EVM
- Psychology

Middle School *(Grade 5-8)*
- Tamil
- Social Studies
- General Science
- Music *(Hindustani & Western)*

Foreign Languages Part time
- French
- German
- Spanish

Administrative positions
- Accounts Officer/ Accountant
- Senior Librarian/ Librarian
- Career Counsellor
- Admission Counsellor
- Secretary
- Digital Marketing Executive
- Front Office Executive
- Lab Assistant *(Bio/Phy/Chemistry)*
- Residential Nurse
- Hostel Supervisor/ Warden/Matron *(Girls/Boys)*

Requirements:
- **Teaching roles**: Postgraduate degree in the relevant subject with B.Ed.
- Cambridge teaching certification/PDQ, experience in IGCSE/AS & A Levels, strong subject expertise
- 5+ years teaching experience, preferably in a residential school, with strong communication skills.
- **Administrative roles:** Relevant training with 3–5 years experience.

Interested candidates may apply online within 10 days at https://vischennai.ac.in/careers/
For more details, visit www.vischennai.ac.in

M BG-BGE

Bengaluru has most public sector buses among Indian cities with 7,067 vehicles

While the national average stands at 1.2 buses per 1,000 people, Karnataka has 3.81 buses per 1,000 people, according to Transport Minister

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

With a fleet of 7,067 buses, Bengaluru has the largest number of public sector buses among Indian cities, followed by Chennai, Mumbai, and Delhi. Karnataka leads at the State-level, operating 26,054 buses, which translates to 3.81 buses per 1,000 people. This puts it ahead of Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh, according to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

As many as 18,987 buses operate in the State excluding 7,067 buses operating in Bengaluru.

The Minister made these remarks amid ongoing calls from Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya, former Infosys CFO T.V. Mohandas Pai, and Yulu co-founder R.K. Misra, who have all suggested that the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) should be privatised. According to Mr. Reddy, in Bengaluru, BMTC operates 7,067 buses, including 1,799 electric buses, catering to nearly 48 lakh passengers every day, the highest ridership for any city-run public transport system in India.

Bengaluru tops the charts

Daily passengers travelling (in lakh)

Bus transport corporations	Total buses	
Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation	7,067 (Electric buses: 1799)	48
Metropolitan Transport Corporation, Chennai	3,651 (Electric buses: 230)	34
Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport Undertaking, Mumbai	3,794 (Electric buses: 1121 leased buses 2,340)	25
Delhi Transport Corporation	3,222 (Electric buses: 2,526)	24
Kolkata	750	6

Other cities

"Chennai's Metropolitan Transport Corporation follows with 3,651 buses (230 electric), ferrying around 34 lakh passengers daily. Mumbai's Brihanmumbai Electricity Supply and Transport Undertaking (BEST) operates 3,794 buses, including 1,121 electric and 2,340 leased vehicles, carrying about 25 lakh commuters daily. The Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) runs 3,222 buses (2,526 electric) serving 24 lakh passengers each day. In contrast, Kolkata has a fleet of only 750 buses catering to about six lakh passengers," he said.

"This data itself shows how effectively BMTC serves the people of Bengaluru. Now some people want to privatise this system so that private organisations can make profits. The government's focus is on service, not on profit," Mr. Reddy added.

BMTC caters to nearly 48 lakh passengers every day, the highest ridership for any city-run public transport system in India

The Minister also highlighted Karnataka's dominance in public transport across India. "While the national average stands at 1.2 buses per 1,000 people, Karnataka provides 3.81 buses per 1,000 people. This clearly reflects our commitment to public mobility," he said.

The State operates 26,054 buses through its four corporations, namely Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), the North West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC), and the Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC).

Other States

Comparing figures from other States, Mr. Reddy said Tamil Nadu has 20,912 buses (2.70 per 1,000 people), Maharashtra 16,900 (1.32), Uttar Pradesh 13,031 (0.54), and Andhra Pradesh 11,111 (2.07). "In every parameter, the number of buses, passengers carried, and service reliability Karnataka stands first," he asserted. Recalling past efforts to improve city roads, the Minister said that during the tenure of former Chief Minister S.M. Krishna, road widening projects were taken up to reduce traffic congestion.

"Those road widening projects helped ease traffic. Unfortunately, later governments did not continue them. Now, with limited funds and high land compensation costs, road widening has become difficult," Mr. Reddy explained, adding, "Given the present situation, the only feasible options are tunnel roads and flyovers."

Citing Andhra Pradesh as an example, he said that years ago when Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had implemented extensive road expansion projects which subsequent governments continued, traffic was managed effectively.

"In Karnataka, lack of continuity in such projects by the next governments has worsened congestion," he added.

Minister slams call to privatise BMTC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy has criticised calls by Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya and former Infosys CFO T.V. Mohandas Pai to end the monopoly of Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) on city bus services. The Minister said that public transport is a welfare service and must remain under government control to serve the interests of the common people rather than profit-driven private operators.

Responding to remarks made during a symposium organised by MoveInSync, where Mr. Surya, Mr. Pai, and Yulu co-founder R.K. Misra suggested privatisation of city bus services, Mr. Reddy held a press conference on October 14 and said those proposing such ideas 'have never travelled by public transport' and 'lack basic understanding of how it functions'.

"They speak of ending BMTC's monopoly without any real experience of using public buses. They believe they have solutions for every issue in society without subject knowledge," Mr. Reddy remarked. He added that BMTC plays a crucial role in providing affordable transportation to labourers, office workers, and lower- and middle-income groups across Bengaluru.

Mr. Reddy argued that privatisation would hurt the very people who rely on BMTC the most. "Private bus operators are profit-oriented, and will only run services on profitable routes. In contrast, BMTC operates on the service principle, ensuring that even less lucrative routes are covered for public benefit," he said.

Private bus service between KIA and Mysuru cancelled

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Freshbus, a private all-electric intercity bus service that was scheduled to operate between Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) and Mysuru, has had its inaugural service cancelled after the Karnataka Transport Department ruled that the operator did not have the necessary permissions.

According to Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, the bus service was planned to be inaugurated by Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, with a formal event scheduled to mark the launch recently. However, the Transport Department intervened upon learning about the launch, informing Mr. Shivakumar, and the service was subsequently called off.

"They have not obtained permission to operate between Bengaluru airport and Mysuru. How can they start the service without approval? We instructed them to drop the plan," Mr. Reddy said, adding that appropriate action has also been initiated against the operator.

Policy change ends permit-free operation

The cancellation is part of a policy revision by the Karnataka Transport Department in July, which withdrew the earlier exemption that allowed electric, methanol, and ethanol-based public transport vehicles to operate without permits. The exemption had been introduced in line with a 2018 order by the Union Road Transport Ministry to encourage eco-friendly transport and reduce carbon emissions. The State government, however, decided to revoke the provision, citing misuse of the facility.

Mr. Reddy said the initiative aims to ensure accountability of both vehicle owners and drivers of battery-operated, methanol, and ethanol-powered vehicles.

"The goal is to obtain an accurate count of such vehicles operating in passenger and goods transport, and to ensure safety measures, including GPS tracking, are implemented for passenger protection," he added.

Freshbus was all set to launch its services between Bengaluru airport and Mysuru during the first week of October, coinciding with the Dasara festival, and had advertised the service in both Bengaluru and Mysuru.

Freshbus did not respond to *The Hindu*'s request for comment.

Currently, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) operates airport bus services connecting KIA to cities across the State.

The Flybus, KSRTC's premium airport service with seat-only coaches, links Bengaluru airport with Mysuru, Mangaluru, Madikeri, and other towns. In January, the State-run corporation also introduced two Ambaari Utsav sleeper buses between Bengaluru airport and Kundapur, catering to passengers seeking overnight travel options.

SBI donates ₹75L for tree plantation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a step towards environmental sustainability and social welfare, the State Bank of India (SBI) has contributed ₹75 lakh under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, recently.

The donation will support the plantation of 50,000 saplings at Bahubali College of Engineering, Shravanabelagola in Hassan District. This green initiative aims to improve air quality, enhance the region's green cover, and contribute to a healthier ecosystem.

Small buildings exempted from OC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has issued an order exempting small residential buildings within the jurisdiction of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) from obtaining an occupancy certificate.

As per the order, residential buildings up to ground plus two floors or stilt plus three floors, constructed on plots measuring up to 1,200 sq. ft, will no longer require an Occupancy Certificate (OC).

The exemption applies to buildings falling under the jurisdiction of the five municipal corporations that come under the GBA.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. CAO/CN/BNC/147/2025
Dated : 09-10-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Auto Signalling works between Yesvantpur - Arsikere Section : Proposed Construction of Station buildings at Golhalli, Dodbele and Hirehalli Stations. **(Tender Ref. No. YPR-ASK-AUTOGOOMTY)**	Rs. 7,56,11,980/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs on 31-10-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantonment
PUB/554/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in
PUB1289/25
E-AUCTION NOTICE No.: S/13/Auc.Prog/25-26 Dt.: 10.10.2025
Sub: Special E-Auction Programme on 23rd October-2025 and E-Auction programme for the month of November & December-2025

Special E-Auction	
Date	Divisions/Depots
23.10.2025	Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, Hyderabad Nanded, Secunderabad, Lallaguda, Rayanapadu, Tirupati

November E-Auction-2025	
Date	Divisions/Depots
03.11.2025	Secunderabad
04.11.2025	Tirupati
06.11.2025	Nanded
07.11.2025	Vijayawada
10.11.2025	Lallaguda
11.11.2025	Guntur
12.11.2025	Guntakal
13.11.2025	Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, Nanded, Secunderabad, Lallaguda, Rayanapadu, Tirupati
14.11.2025	Rayanapadu
17.11.2025	Secunderabad
18.11.2025	Tirupati
19.11.2025	Nanded
20.11.2025	Vijayawada
21.11.2025	Lallaguda
24.11.2025	Guntur
25.11.2025	Guntakal
26.11.2025	Hyderabad
27.11.2025	Rayanapadu
28.11.2025	Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, Nanded, Secunderabad, Lallaguda, Rayanapadu, Tirupati

December E-Auction 2025	
Date	Divisions/Depots
01.12.2025	Tirupati
02.12.2025	Nanded
03.12.2025	Vijayawada
04.12.2025	Lallaguda
05.12.2025	Guntur
08.12.2025	Guntakal
09.12.2025	Hyderabad
10.12.2025	Rayanapadu
11.12.2025	Secunderabad
12.12.2025	Tirupati, Hyderabad, Vijayawada, Guntakal, Guntur, Nanded, Secunderabad, Lallaguda, Rayanapadu,
15.12.2025	Nanded
16.12.2025	Vijayawada
17.12.2025	Lallaguda
18.12.2025	Guntur
19.12.2025	Guntakal
22.12.2025	Rayanapadu
23.12.2025	Hyderabad
24.12.2025	Secunderabad
26.12.2025	Tirupati
29.12.2025	Nanded
30.12.2025	Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Guntakal, Guntur, Nanded, Secunderabad, Lallaguda, Rayanapadu, Tirupati
31.12.2025	Lallaguda

Principal Cheif Materails Manager/ Secunderabad
A1623
For further tender conditions/ details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No. SG-SWR-PROJ-UBL-RFP-PSS2 Dated : 10-10-2025
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

Name of the Work	Approx. Value
Request for Proposal for providing Project Supervision Services at various Construction Sites / Sections in the jurisdiction of CSTE / Project Hubballi and CSTE / Project Bengaluru, South Western Railway.	Rs. 13,80,09,261.96

Last date for submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs on 12-11-2025**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Deputy Chief Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Project/Hubballi
PUB/555/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

CENTRAL RAILWAY
SOLAPUR DIVISION
Signalling Work
Tender Notice No. SUR-N-T-2025-26-19 Date: 13.10.2025 DRM (S&T)'s Office, Central Railway, Solapur for and on behalf of President of India invites online e-tenders on Railway's e-procurement website **www.ireps.gov.in** from the capable, reputed firms /Contractors for the following works: **Name of Work with its Locality**: Provision / Shifting of Telecom Facility including FOIS Network for Development of various goods shed and changing room on Solapur Division of Central Railway. **Approximate Cost of the Work**: Rs. 1,22,45,668.66. **Cost of the Tender Form**: NIL. **Earnest Money to be Deposited**: Rs. 2,11,200.00/-. **Completion Period of the Work**: 8 Months. **Date & Time of Closing of tender on www.ireps.gov.in** 04.11.2025 after 15:30 hrs. The details are available in ireps website.Corrigendum/amendments if any will be uploaded only on above e-procurement website. Only online tenders will be accepted. Manual/postal/e-mail, FAX, by hand tenders will not be accepted. Bidders are requested to obtain Class III Digital Signature Certificate with company name and register the same with **www.ireps.gov.in.** The Payment of Earnest Money (EMD) will be accepted through net banking or payment gateway only. For further details please visit **www.ireps.gov.in.**
DRM (S&T Branch)
APEX-76 Central Railway, Solapur
टिकट के लिए यूटीएस ऐप डाउनलोड करें

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Notification No. 02/2025-26/HVS/CH/UBL Dt:08.10.2025
The Applications are invited from the interested candidates for the posts of "Honorary Visiting Specialist" to work in Central Hospital, South Western Railway, Hubballi in the following specialties for the period of one year from the date of appointment.

Sl. No.	Speciality	Category	No. of days in a week	Hours per Visit	Honorarium to be paid per month.
01	Cardiology	Super Specialist	6 days/week	04.00 hrs	96,000/- P.M
02	Ophthalmology	Specialist	6 days/week	04.00 hrs	78,000/- P.M
03	Orthopedic	Specialist	6 days/week	04.00 hrs	78,000/- P.M

The interested candidates should fulfill the following:

1	Qualification / Experience	PG Degree with three years experience or PG Diploma with five years experience.
2	Age Limit	Between 30 to 64 years
3	In case any of the consultants are currently working in Government/Quasi Government organization, they have to submit a NOC from the concerned organization along with the application.	

The applications are to be submitted to the undersigned or can be mailed to **mdchubl@swr.railnet.gov.in** on or before **12.11.2025 up to 06.00 p.m.** For further details contact office of the undersigned on all working days between 10.00 am to 6.00 pm or visit our website **www.swrindianrailways.gov.in**
The details of the copies of the certificate in support of age, qualification, experience etc., are to be enclosed with self attestation.
The selection will be done based on the documents submitted and no interviews will be conducted.
In case of any ambiguity in interpretation of any of the instruction/terms regarding the determination of eligibility, the interpretation by MD/CH/UBL will be final and binding.
Medical Director/Central Hospital Hubballi
PUB/542/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26
Download the UTS Mobile App from Google Play Store for ease of booking of unreserved tickets
South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

OFFICE OF THE RECOVERY OFFICER-I/II
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BANGALORE (DRT 2)
Government of India Ministry of Finance Department of Financial Services
Debt Recovery Tribunal-II Karnataka (Bengaluru) 4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pincode-560001

DEMAND NOTICE
FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)]
By Regd. A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961.

RC/540/2024 IN OA No.1048/2021

BANK OF BARODA
Versus
SRI. NARASAPPA AND OTHERS

In the Matter of:
(CH) Bank of Baroda Banashankari Branch,No 334, 22, 1st Main, 41st Cross, 8th Block, Banashankari, Bangalore-560082 ....Certificate Holder
V/s
(CD1) Sri. Narasappa. S/o. Sri. Venkatappa. R/at No.50, 10th Main, 17th cross, Padarayanapura, Bangalore-560026.
(CD2) Sri. Tulasi W/o. Sri Narasappa, R/at No.50, 10th Main, 17th Cross, Padarayanapura, Bangalore-560026
(CD3) Sri. Naresh Chand S/o Late Muralilal, R/at No. S-191, Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi-110048
(CD4) Sri. Abdul Jameel S/o. Late Abdul Jaleel, R/at No. 219, 3rd Cross, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore-560034
(CD5) Sri. A Shamshuddin S/o. Sri. Abdul Quduse, R/at No. 9, 6th Cross, Someshwarnagar, Jayanagar 1st Block, Bangalore-560011
(CD6) M/s. Pruthvi Builders And Developers Represented By Its Managing Partner, Sri. P. Shankar, Having Its Office At, No. 29/2, 2nd Floor, Senaipillai Complex, Hulimavu Gate, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore-560070.
....Certificate Debtors

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalore (DRT 2) in OA/1048/2021** an amount of **Rs 41,00,651(Rupees Forty One Lakhs Six Hundred Fifty One Only)** along with pendentellite and future interest @ 10 % Compound Interest Yearly w.e.f. 30.06.2021 till realization and costs of **Rs 96,005 (Rupees Ninety Six Thousands Five Only)** has become due againts you (Jointly and severally/Fully/Limited).
2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. Your are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4. You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on **11.12.2024 at 10:30 a.m.** for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay: (a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/ execution proceedings. (b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal on this **date: 26.06.2024**
Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 to the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act, 1961 read with Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 (Amended from time to time) which is reproduced as under: "Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the debts recovery officer nor shall be any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.
(2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any Interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment.
(3) You are also liable to disclose your assets both movable and immovable to this Tribunal along with the Income Tax Returns of last 5 year.

Recovery Officer
Debts Recovery Tribunal, Bangalore (DRT 2)

राष्ट्रीय प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा संस्थान, पुणे
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NATUROPATHY, PUNE
निसर्ग ग्राम, येवलेवाडी, पुणे – 411048.
Nisarg Gram, Yewalewadi, Pune – 411048.
The National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune, an autonomous body, under the Ministry of Ayush, Government of India, proposes to fill one position of **Domain Expert (Yoga & Naturopathy)** on contract/ deputation basis. For details of eligibility conditions, remuneration and the last date for the receipt of applications visit the institute's website **https://ninpune.ayush.gov.in**
cbc17211/12/0008/2526 Director

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client ('**Client**') is desirous of entering into certain transaction in connection with the immovable properties morefully described in the '**Schedule**' hereunder and are hereinafter collectively referred to as the '**Schedule Properties**' with the owners listed in the table hereinbelow ('**Owners**'). The Owners have represented to our Client that they are the absolute owners of their respective portions in the Schedule Properties, with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.
Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owners, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties is/ are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Properties or their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof of such claim/s or objections, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of **10 (ten) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received within the said period of 10 (ten) days, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owners has/ have any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties. Further any claims or alleged interests, if any, which are not received within the said period of 10 (ten) days shall be deemed to have been consciously waived and disregarded for all intents and purposes and shall thereafter not be binding on our Client and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Properties)
All that piece and parcel of immovable property being converted for commercial purpose and being a portion of E-Khatha bearing No. 150200203101100791 and Village Panchayath Khatha No. 2306/77/6,7,9,15,16,17,3A,3B,4,5,78/8,10A1,10B, measuring about 05 Acres 28 Guntas (excluding the area in Survey No. 77/5 relinquished to the Chikkajala Village Panchayath), situated at Chikkajala Village, Jala Hobli, Yalahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and formed out of the properties listed in the table herein below:

Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent Acres	Extent Gunta	Boundaries	Name of the Owner/s
1.	77/3A	0	19	East by : Nala / Kaluve; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 77/3B; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 77/1; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.77/4.	Mr. Hemanth Kodihalli Ramesh (son of Late Muniyamma)
2.	77/3B	0	19	East by : Property bearing Survey No. 77/3A; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/5A; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 77/1; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.77/4.	
3.	77/4	2	34	East by : Nala / Kaluve; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/5A; North by : Properties bearing Survey Nos. 77/3A & 77/3B; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.77/5.	(I) Mrs. Rathanamma, wife of Late Ramakrishnaiah; (ii) Ms. R. Prabha, daughter of Late Ramakrishnaiah; & (iii) Mr. C.R.Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah - 02 Acres 31 ¾ Guntas Mr. C. R. Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah – 2.2 Guntas
4.	77/5	1	09	East by : Nala / Kaluve; West by : Properties bearing Survey Nos. 78/10A1 & 78/10A2; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 77/4; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.77/6.	Mr. C. N. Ashok & Mr. C.N. Ramesh, both sons of Late Narayanappa – 01 Acre 05 Guntas. Mr. C. R. Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah – 2.2 Guntas (less the area relinquished for road)
5.	78/8	0	10	East by : Properties bearing Survey Nos. 78/10B & 78/10A1; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 79; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/7; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.78/9.	Mr. C. R. Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah & Mrs. Rathanamma, wife of Late Ramakrishnaiah
6.	78/ 10 A1	0	15	East by : Properties bearing Survey Nos. 77/4 & 77/5; West by : Properties bearing Survey Nos. 78/10B & 78/8; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/10B; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.78/10A2.	Mr. C. R. Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah
7.	78/ 10B	0	02	East by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/10A1; West by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/8; North by : Property bearing Survey No. 78/5; & South by : Property bearing Survey No.78/10A1.	Mr. C. R. Suresh, son of Late Ramakrishnaiah

Date: 15.10.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Ms. Brijita Prakash
Partner
J. Sagar Associates
Advocates & Solicitors
18th Floor, SKAV 909, No. 9/1, Residency Road, Richmond Circle
Bengaluru – 560 025.
Ph. 080-4350 3600/080-4350 3676
Email – brijita.prakash@jsalaw.com

ADVERTISEMENT

Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047: Shaping the Future Together

Millions of voices are driving the vision of a Viksit Uttar Pradesh - a people-led transformation under CM Yogi Adityanath.

Public Participation Powering Policy: 4 Million+ Suggestions Shape UP's Future

VIKSIT UTTAR PRADESH
SAMARTH UTTAR PRADESH
2047
SANKALP SE SAMRIDDHI

Scan the QR Code
Go to the suggestion form
https://samarthuttarpradesh.up.gov.in

The **"Samarth Uttar Pradesh – Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047: Centenary of Prosperity"** campaign, launched under the visionary leadership of **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath,** is redefining participatory governance. With suggestions pouring in from every corner of all 75 districts, the initiative embodies the spirit of जनभागीदारी से जनविकास — *People's Development through Public Participation.*

Every citizen's idea is a step toward a Viksit Uttar Pradesh. This is not just a campaign, it's a collective movement towards the state's golden future."our confidence as we get ready to welcome the world again.

- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Public Participation

Public Participation Powering Policy

Viksit UP @2047- By the Numbers

Total Suggestions Received	4 million
From Rural Areas	3.1 million
From Urban Areas	0.90 million
Youth Participation	50% of total
Top Discussion Themes	Education, Agriculture, Rural Development

Data: As on 14.10.2025

Every citizen's idea is a step toward a Viksit Uttar Pradesh."

- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Voices from Every District

Core Development Themes

Pillars of a Viksit Uttar Pradesh

Agriculture & Rural Prosperity
Scientific, diverse, organic, citizen-led rural growth.

Education & Skill Development
Education leads demand for quality learning.

Health & Social Welfare
Healthcare modernization, diagnostics, and digital access.

Technology & Innovation
UP's IT revolution drives digital growth.

Spotlight: Bhadohi Carpet Cluster

Bhadohi: Symbol of Economic Strength

At the 49th International Kaleen Mela & 4th Carpet Expo, CM Yogi celebrated Bhadohi's global recognition, with carpets now reaching 88 countries and generating ₹17,000 crore in exports while employing 30 lakh people.

Upcoming Initiatives:

- Creation of a Special Carpet Development Region connecting Bhadohi–Mirzapur–Varanasi
- High-level committee for policy support to carpet entrepreneurs
- Promotion of Swadeshi fairs showcasing local crafts across all districts

Short fact list:

₹17,000 crore exports
30 lakh employed
Carpets exported to 88 countries

When one country imposes tariffs, we open trade with ten new countries. Challenges bring opportunities.

- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Youth Lead the Way in Shaping Tomorrow

With youth contributing nearly half of all feedback, their voice has become central in shaping UP's roadmap for 2047. Education, employment, and technology-driven growth dominate youth submissions, underscoring their aspirations for a modern, self-reliant Uttar Pradesh.

UP's Transformation Map: From **Gram To Global**

Today's youth are tomorrow's policymakers. Their participation ensures continuity of progress.

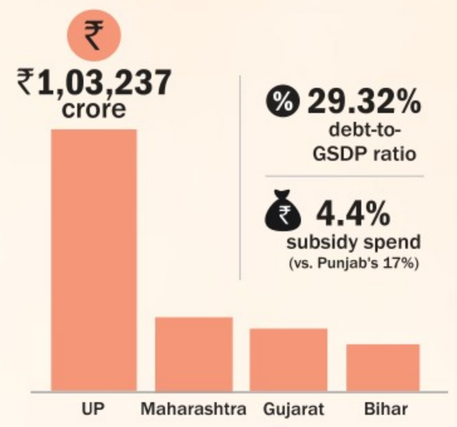
- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Fiscal Discipline & Development-Driven Spending

According to the CAG's State Finance Accounts 2022–23, Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the top state in capital expenditure and investment, maintaining strict fiscal discipline under CM Yogi's leadership.

Key Highlights:

- ₹1,03,237 crore capital expenditure — highest in India
- Revenue surplus achieved while controlling debt and subsidies
- 11.89% of total expenditure allocated to infrastructure
- Fully compliant with FRBM Act provisions



We are not just investing in infrastructure, we are investing in the dreams of 25 crore citizens.

- Yogi Adityanath, Chief Minister, U.P.

Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047 — Jan Bhagidari Se Jan Vikas Ki Ore"

‘Been getting threat calls for seeking ban on RSS activities on govt. premises’

Priyank Kharge says if they think threats and personal jibes will silence him, they are mistaken; he adds it is time to build a society rooted in equality, reason and compassion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

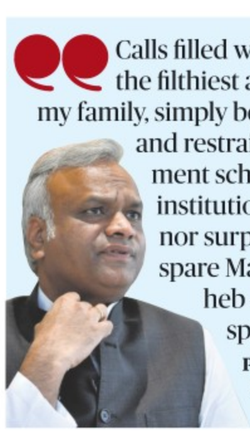
IT-BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge has said that for the past two days he has been “receiving calls filled with threats, intimidation, and filthiest abuse” directed at him and his family.

The harassment, he alleged, followed his letter to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking a ban on Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) activities on the premises of government properties.

‘Not shaken’

Taking to X on Tuesday, he said, “For the past two days, my phone hasn’t stopped ringing. Calls filled with threats, intimidation and the filthiest abuse directed at me and my family, simply because I dared to question and restrain RSS activities in government schools, colleges and public institutions. But I’m neither shaken nor surprised. When the RSS didn’t spare Mahatma Gandhi or Babasaheb Ambedkar, why would they spare me?”

> Calls filled with threats, intimidation and the filthiest abuse directed at me and my family, simply because I dared to question and restrain RSS activities in government schools, colleges and public institutions. But I’m neither shaken nor surprised. When the RSS didn’t spare Mahatma Gandhi or Babasaheb Ambedkar, why would they spare me?
>
> **PRIYANK KHARGE.**
> IT-BT and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister



He further said, “If they think threats and personal jibes will silence me, they are mistaken. This has just begun. It is time to build a society founded on the principles of Buddha, Basavanna and Babasaheb, a society rooted in equality, reason and compassion.”

On Sunday, the day RSS held 100 events across Bengaluru (many on school grounds and other government premises), Mr. Kharge demanded that such activities not be allowed on government properties.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said on Monday that he had instructed the Chief Secretary to study measures taken by the neighbouring Tamil Nadu government to restrict the activities of the RSS there.

Not ban on RSS

Meanwhile, the Minister clarified that he had never called for a ban on the organisation itself.

“Where have I told to ban RSS? They are using government colleges, schools, universities, grounds, and archaeological sites for what? They are poisoning the minds of young children... They are indoctrinating religion into them,” he told ANI.

“What I should pray to, what I should eat, and what I should wear, my parents will teach me at home. In schools, they’re supposed to learn. They come there for education so that they can get out of poverty,” he added. Kharge questioned why the children of BJP leaders do not participate in RSS shakhas or become gau rakshaks and dharmrakshaks.

Public displays

On the issue of public displays by RSS cadres, Mr. Kharge said that the organisation should be allowed to operate only in private spaces.

“Let them do it in their houses, private farmlands, hire a hotel or whatever they want, but this public display of sowing communal seeds and threatening people is not good... Trying to portray that they are bigger than the Constitution, bigger than the law of the land. I’m sorry, they are not,” he said.

Mr. Kharge also addressed the State government’s review, ordered by Mr. Siddaramaiah, stating, “We will see how it goes. In either case, I don’t think this kind of arrangement of RSS should be allowed in public places.”

(With agency inputs from ANI)

CM hints at Cabinet reshuffle by November-end or early December

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and other Congress leaders during a dinner meeting in Bengaluru on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Even as discussions gain momentum over a possible reshuffle of the Karnataka Cabinet, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has reportedly indicated to senior Ministers that such a move is likely in the last week of November or the first week of December, and advised them to be “mentally prepared” for it.

At a dinner hosted for his Cabinet colleagues on Monday night, the Chief Minister is learnt to have told senior Ministers to be ready to take on greater responsibilities within the party organisation. The Congress high command, which has completed a review of the State government’s performance, is said to have conveyed that a reshuffle has become inevitable to make way for new faces, as the government completes two-and-a-half years in office.

Sources said that while some Ministers may be dropped, Mr Siddaramaiah has promised that those stepping down would be treated honourably and given key organisational responsibilities in the party.

The high command, sources pointed out, has been keen on restructuring the Cabinet and holds a detailed “report card” assessing each Minister’s performance, based on which directions could be issued at any time.

Alongside governance, Mr. Siddaramaiah is learnt to have underscored the need to strengthen the party organisation in view of the upcoming civic and panchayat elections and the 2028 Assembly polls.

“The Congress must consolidate its position at every level to ensure victory in the zilla panchayat, the taluk panchayat, and the Greater Bengaluru Authority elections,” he reportedly told Ministers.

Sources said that some senior Ministers are likely to be assigned specific responsibilities in managing the Bihar Assembly elections. The Chief Minister, at Monday’s meeting, is said to have explained the high command’s directions on the Bihar campaign and asked Ministers to travel to that State to oversee the party’s efforts there.

Local body polls

Elections to the five newly created municipal corporations under the GBA, along with zilla and taluk panchayats, are expected to be held in February or March. The Chief Minister has reportedly directed Ministers to begin groundwork immediately.

He pointed out that local body elections had been pending for several years, and winning all five new corporations would be a major challenge.

‘Counter Opposition’

The Chief Minister is understood to have issued a stern message to his colleagues to actively defend the government and counter Opposition criticism. Sources said he expressed displeasure that only a few Ministers were responding to Opposition attacks.

“The Opposition keeps criticising the government without reason, but most Ministers remain silent. You must strongly defend the government’s stance and achievements, including our position on the RSS, and reply firmly to the Opposition,” a Minister quoted him as saying.

CM upset over remarks on leadership change

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah is said to have expressed displeasure over some Ministers making public statements about possible leadership change.

“Despite repeated instructions from the party in-charge, the KPCC president and myself, some are still speaking out. This is not right,” he reportedly said.

Sources said that having served a total of seven-and-a-half years as Chief Minister - including his previous term - Mr. Siddaramaiah is poised to surpass the tenure of D. Devaraj Urs, who holds the record as the longest-serving Chief Minister of Karnataka.

Appointed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Former MLA D.R. Patil has been appointed vice-president of the Karnataka State Decentralised Project and Development Committee.

According to an official release, Mr. Patil will have the rank of minister of state. Mr. Patil had served as MLA from Gadag Legislative Assembly.

‘Did Rajiv Gandhi call MLAs’ meet before removing Veerendra Patil?’

R. Ashok, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, and C.N. Ashwath Narayan, MLA, at a press conference in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R. Ashok on Tuesday sought to disagree with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah who has maintained that apart from the Congress high command’s nod, the MLAs’ support too is crucial for becoming a Chief Minister.

Speaking to pressperson in Bengaluru, Mr. Ashok sought to remind him about the abrupt removal of the then Chief Minister Veerendra Patil by party leader Rajiv Gandhi.

“Let Mr. Siddaramaiah clarify whether Mr. Rajiv Gandhi had called a meeting of party legislators to decide on changing the Chief Minister while abruptly announcing at the airport in Bengaluru that Veerendra Patil would be removed,” he remarked.

Mr. Ashok, who had earlier predicted a “revolution” in November that would see a change of Chief Minister, said the process has already begun.

“The dinner meeting convened by Mr. Siddaramaiah is an indication of the beginning,” he claimed.

Man held for illegally storing firecrackers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kumbalgodu Police have arrested a 40-year-old travel agency owner and recovered firecrackers worth ₹10.3 lakh. He had allegedly stored these illegally in a godown.

Based on a tip-off, a team of officials raided the godown in Samruddhi Layout and seized 317 boxes of firecrackers.

According to the police, the accused, Athi Subramanya, owner of Padmesh travels in Kalasipalya, had purchased the firecrackers without a bill from Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu.

Centre rejects mining proposal in Tumakaru reserve forests

R. Krishna Kumar
MYSURU

The regional office of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Bengaluru, has rejected a proposal for diversion of 48.2 ha of forestland for a mining project in Tumakuru district.

This follows a site inspection on September 23 and 25, by S. Senthil Kumar, Deputy Director-General of Forests, Central Regional Office, Bengaluru.

In reserve forest

The inspection pertained to a proposal seeking clearance for the Sarangapani Iron and Manganese Ore Mine Project. The mining project is in Thirtharamapura Reserve Forest and is spread across Gollarahalli, Hosahalli, Kodihalli, Tonalapura, and Lakmenahalli villages in Chikkanayakanahalli taluk of Tumakuru district.

The inspection report noted ambiguities in the legal status of the forest land, invalid environmental clearances, and absence of a clearance from the National Board for Wildlife. The rejection also stems from the fact that commercial mining is a prohibited activity within the deemed Eco-Sensitive Zone of Bukkapatna WLS.

The site inspection followed a complaint by Giridhar Kulkarni, a wildlife conservationist who stated that the project was ecologically unsound and would destroy wildlife habitat, apart from disrupting a critical elephant migratory route. He also underlined the hydrological risks and said that the landscape was the only watershed for several drought-prone villages and would affect both wildlife and local livelihoods.

Drought prone

The report noted that Chikkanayakanahalli taluk, where the site lies, is drought prone, and the Thirtharampura Reserve Forest and Janneru Forest Block serve as vital watersheds and any destruction or degradation would worsen the region’s existing water scarcity.

The forest area has undergone natural ecological restoration since mining ceased in 1999, according to the inspection report which drew from the wildlife surveys (Tumkur Forest Division Working Plan & site inspections) which recorded species including sloth bear, leopard, hyena, Indian wolf, jackal, wild boar, four-horned antelope, and jungle cat, with indirect evidence observed during inspections.

It also noted that human-wildlife conflict records (2015-16 to 2025-26) indicated that there were over 380 incidents and mining would further intensify conflicts.

The report stated that in addition to the Sarangapani proposal, 18 other mining leases within the Thirtharampura Reserve Forest and Janneru Forest Block (formerly ML No. 1234, 989.19 ha) are pending forest clearance and approval of the mining project will have disastrous effects on the ecology of the area and the socio-economy of the villages situated in these areas.

Move welcomed

Reacting to the developments, Mr. Kulkarni said the decision of the MoEF & CC is welcome as it has carefully reviewed the social, ecological, and legal concerns before recommending rejection of the Sarangapani mining proposal.

“When our forests and wildlife habitats are under tremendous pressure from development projects – and at a time when most proposals are being cleared – such decisions are extremely rare in the present scenario,” he added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intends to purchase and /or develop the properties described in the Schedule hereunder from the owner/s. Any person/s, firms, societies, institutions (corporate or otherwise) claiming to have any right, title, interest, benefit, claim or demand in, or to, the Schedule Properties and/or any part thereof, by way of sale, agreement, exchange, gift, grant, lease, tenancy, license, assignment, mortgage, charge, lien, trust, family arrangement/ settlement, encumbrance, inheritance, bequest, easement, possession, maintenance, development rights, order/decree/judgment of any Court/Statutory Authority, agreement, understanding or otherwise howsoever, to the Schedule Properties is required to intimate the same in writing together with true copies of all documentary proof in support thereof, to the undersigned, at the address given below, within **Ten (10) days** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client shall proceed ahead to purchase the Schedule Properties and no further claims in respect of the Schedule Properties would be considered any time thereafter.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the land, situated at Vaderahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded by :

Sy. Nos	Land Area	Boundaries (East: E, West: W, North: N & South: S)	Owners Name
21/2	01 Acre 04 excluding 01 Gunta of kharab land	E : Durgappa property ; W : Govindaraju property ; N : Kadhirappa's property ; and S : Chikkamuniyappa property.	Mrs. Gangamma w/o. Poojappa

Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar, Senior Partner ,
Fox Mandal & Associates, Solicitors & Advocates,
FM House, 6/12, Primrose Road,
Bangalore – 560025, Karnataka, India Ph: +91 80 25 59 5911
Dated: 15/10/2025

ASSAM INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
R.G. Baruah Road, Guwahati- 781024
Ph. 0361-2201215, 2202216, Email: aidc-ltd@assam.gov.in

ECF No: 312543/11

Short Notice Inviting Tender

Sealed tenders are invited from intending reputed Company/ Firms/Registered contractors of appropriate class with financially sound background for the work of “Procurement of glasswares& accessories for Regional Food Testing Laboratory (RFTL), Nalbari”with an estimated value of **Rs 18,12,041.00(Rupees Eighteen Lakh Twelve Thousand and Forty-One)** only.

Tender documents may be collected from the office of the Corporation during Office hours from **15.10.2025 to 30.10.2025** by **depositing the Cost of the tender documents by Cash** or by submitting a demand draft in favor of Assam Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., payable at Guwahati. Sealed tenders should be submitted on or before **30.10.2025 at 13:00 hours**. In the event of the office remaining closed under unavoidable circumstances, the tender will be received on next working day up to the stipulated time. For more details please visit AIDC Ltd. official website www.aidcltd.com

Sd/-
DIPR /CF/ HIND/ 2247/ 15-Oct-25 General Manager

Government of Odisha - **“e” PROCUREMENT NOTICE**
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No.CCEKC-13 / 2025-26
e-mail : ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com / sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
Letter No.4899, dt.08.10.2025

1. No. of the work	:-	2 number of Building Works
2. Estimated cost	:-	Rs.195.90 Lakhs to Rs.235.06 Lakhs
3. Class of Contractor	:-	“B” & “A” Class
4. Period of completion	:-	09 (Nine) Calendar Months to 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months
5. Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	:-	From 11.00 Hours of 14.10.2025 to 16.00 Hours of 28.10.2025.
6. Last date/Time for receipt of bids in the portal	:-	16.00 Hours of 28.10.2025
7. Date of opening of Bid from Portal	:-	11.30 Hours on 29.10.2025
8. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	:-	Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **“http://tendersodisha.gov.in”**
Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar.
B-591: OIPR-34033/11/0096/2526.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

ANNIVERSARY

JANANAM 02.03.1946
MUKTHI 15.10.2000

Sri. R.RAGHURAMAN
In Fond Memory of our Former Joint Managing Director

Sri Lakshmi Saraswathi Textiles (Arni) Ltd.,

DEATH

Shri R. GOPALAN
19.09.1926 – 11.10.2025
In loving memory, we share the news of his passing, **on Saturday, the 11th of October** after an illustrious career in the Govt. and a long, healthy and active retired life, affectionately involved with family and friends.
With fond remembrance.
Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
Condolences can be sent to :
ravigalthea@gmail.com and shekarg@yahoo.com

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

11th ANNIVERSARY

29.04.1935 - 15.10.2014
Sri.**K.R. NARAYANAN**
Rtd. CWS/S.Rly
Missing you so much Tata
By Ramya & Prasanna
9940657984, 9790933226

Unions allege discrepancy in TCS employee numbers

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Following the second quarter results of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) that showed a significant reduction in the number of employees, multiple unions have come out alleging 'illegal retrenchment' practices by the company and a lack of transparency.

The IT & ITES Democratic Employees' Association (IIDEA) held a demonstration in front of the TCS campus at Whitefield in Bengaluru, protesting mass layoffs by the company.

The protesters registered their objection to the layoffs, which reportedly target mid- and senior-level professionals, and demanded that the company immediately halt illegal retrenchments.

They also termed TCS new deployment policy, which requires employees to maintain 225 billable days annually, 'exploitative'.

At the protest, concerns were raised about TCS's recruitment practices too. "Over 500 professionals, who had received offer letters with joining dates in July 2025 are still waiting without clarity. Many of them left other jobs to join TCS, and now face financial and professional uncertainty," according to a statement from IIDEA.

On October 9, releasing its second-quarter financial results, TCS reported a closing headcount of 593,314 employees in the second quarter of FY26, compared to 613,069 employees in the first quarter. This is a net reduction of 19,755 employees in one quarter. In the same quarter, TCS reported a consolidated revenue of ₹65,799 crore. The developments come close on the heels of a layoff announcement by the company's chief executive K. Krithivasan, who said that 2% of the total workforce would be relieved over the current year as part of a phased restructuring.

Harpreet Singh Saluja, President of Nascent Information Technology Employees' Senate, noted that in recent media interactions, TCS claimed that only around 12,000 employees were removed in the quarter.

A joint statement by Karnataka State IT/ITES Employees' Union, Association of IT Employees - Kerala and Union of IT and ITES Employees - Tamil Nadu, also disputed the company's claims.

"TCS's HR head claimed that only 6,000 of these departures were due to 'involuntary attrition'. We strongly dispute this claim and assert that the company employed cruel and illegal methods to force these employees out," it said.

"By openly accepting that it has retrenched 6,000 employees, TCS has admitted to a violation of the Industrial Disputes Ac," the statement said.

The Hindu's queries to the company about the reduction in the number of employees have gone unanswered.

42% OBC quota enhancement 'will of people', says Telangana

State moves top court after HC stays govt. decision to increase OBC reservation in seats in local bodies, where elections will be held this month; total quota crosses SC-stipulated ceiling of 50%

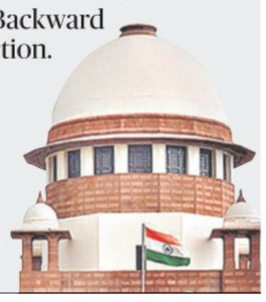
Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Telangana government has approached the Supreme Court against a State High Court decision to stay two Government Orders that enhanced the Other Backward Classes (OBC) quota in seats in municipalities and panchayats to 42%.

"Petitioner has implemented the reservation based on the will of the people," the State said in its special leave petition filed by its advocate Devina Sehgal on Monday.

Polling for Telangana local bodies elections are scheduled to be held on October 23 and 27.

> The High Court committed an error by granting stay on the Government Orders for reservation to Backward classes in local bodies election. There is no embargo on reservations exceeding 50%... no limit within constitutional framework vis-à-vis the permitted percentage of reservation
>
> STATE OF TELANGANA IN SC



The enhancement of 42% in Other Backward Classes together with the existing 15% for Scheduled Castes and 10% for Scheduled Tribes, would make the aggregate reservation to 67%, directly violating the 50% ceiling.

"The High Court committed an error by granting stay on the Government Orders that have provided reservation for Backward classes in the local bodies election. There is no embargo per se on reservation exceeding 50%. There exists no limit within the constitutional framework vis-à-vis the permitted percentage of reservation," Telangana said. The 50% cap was only a "general guiding principle", it said.

The Telangana Backward Classes (Reservation of Seats in Rural and Urban Local Bodies) Bill, 2025, was unanimously passed by both the Houses of the Legislature on March 17 and March 18, which *inter alia* provides for 42% reservation for Backward Classes in urban and rural local bodies.

Parakamani case: A.P. CID seizes key files after HC raps police over lapses in probe

G.P. Shukla
TIRUMALA

Andhra Pradesh Director General of Police (CID) Ravishankar Ayyanar on Tuesday seized crucial documents relating to the case of alleged swindling of foreign currency notes offered to the *hundi* in the form of donations at the Lord Venkateswara temple at Tirumala.

The move comes a day after the State High Court pulled up the Police department over its 'slack and indifferent' handling of the probe and failure to secure vital evidence in time.

Addressing the media, Mr. Ayyanar confirmed that the CID had taken possession of the TTD Trust Board's resolutions, the Lok Adalat compromise papers, the case diary, CCTV footage, and other related documents.

"All the seized documents will be produced before the High Court," he said.

TTD had named Ravikumar, a clerk attached to the Pedda Jeeyar Mutt, as the key accused

The Parakamani controversy dates back to April 2023, when allegations of large-scale theft of foreign currency notes from the temple *hundi* surfaced.

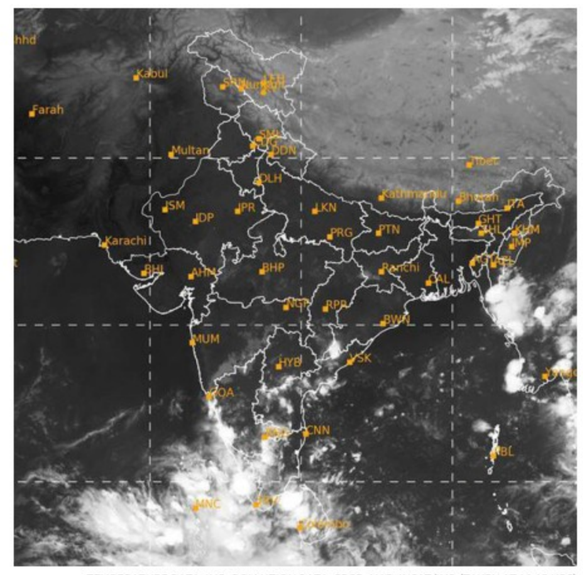
'Compromise formula'

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) had named Ravikumar, a clerk attached to the Pedda Jeeyar Mutt, as the key accused. However, the case took a twist when the issue was settled in the Lok Adalat Court in Tirupati, raising speculations against the 'compromise formula' worked out, according to which Ravikumar had reportedly gifted properties worth several crores of rupees to the TTD, eventually leading to the case's closure.

The case has been posted for its next hearing to October 17.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andhra Pradesh, south interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Mahe and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	33.0	24.0	Kozhikode	—	34.6	25.7
Ahmedabad	—	34.3	20.6	Kurnool	—	33.8	23.9
Aizawl	—	32.0	20.4	Lucknow	—	32.0	19.4
Allahabad	—	33.6	18.8	Madurai	—	34.9	26.5
Bengaluru	—	28.5	21.3	Mangaluru	—	31.8	24.0
Bhopal	—	30.8	16.0	Mumbai	—	35.3	21.6
Bhubaneswar	—	33.2	23.9	Mysuru	—	31.4	20.0
Chandigarh	—	32.3	17.8	New Delhi	—	32.6	19.0
Chennai	0.9	33.3	26.4	Patna	—	31.5	23.5
Coimbatore	24	31.4	22.8	Port Blair	3	31.3	24.8
Dehradun	—	30.8	17.0	Puducherry	—	31.0	24.0
Gangtok	0.3	22.8	13.9	Pune	—	34.2	20.5
Goa	—	33.5	24.8	Raipur	—	32.0	23.1
Guwahati	—	33.5	24.1	Ranchi	—	29.7	19.8
Hubballi	—	30.0	22.0	Shillong	—	22.8	15.1
Hyderabad	—	29.8	22.3	Shimla	—	23.6	13.2
Imphal	—	31.1	25.9	Srinagar	—	26.2	8.2
Jaipur	—	30.4	18.3	Thiruvananthapuram	4	30.5	24.7
Kochi	—	31.0	25.8	Tiruchi	—	33.7	24.6
Kohima	—	27.0	16.0	Vijayawada	14	30.8	24.4
Kolkata	—	32.8	24.5	Visakhapatnam	3	32.2	25.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.38	..43	31	... 166	...178	
Bengaluru	...7	..25	45	... 121	84	
Chennai	.15	..17	58	 23	52	
Delhi	.30	..42	44	... 230	...349	
Hyderabad	...6	..20	40	 91	...102	
Kolkata	...7	..49	27	 78	...193	
Lucknow	.54	..12	49	... 103	...124	
Mumbai	.10	..20	11	... 208	...166	
Pune	..—	..20	20	... 205	...173	
Visakhapatnam	..—	..—	15	..... —	.....—	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 261 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 11

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Telangana phone tapping case: SC asks accused to cooperate

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed former Telangana SIB chief T. Prabhakar Rao, accused in a case of alleged phone tapping, to provide the password to his iCloud account to the State police in the presence of forensic experts.

A Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and R. Mahadevan also extended Mr. Rao's interim protection from arrest till November 18 and directed him to appear before the investigating officer and cooperate with the probe.

Mr. Rao faces charges of orchestrating illegal surveillance on politicians, journalists, businessmen, and even some High Court judges during the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi regime.

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprises)
Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, IPC. Division No.1, Kalaburgi.

No. EE/KNNL/IPCD-1/PB-5,10/Tender/ 2025-26/ 1054 Date: 13.10.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through -E-Procurement)

On behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL Bangaluru, the Executive Engineer, KNNL IPC Division No,1 Kalaburagi, invites the Percentage basis tender for 02 works of Gandorinala Project and Lower Mulla Mari Project under 4701 Head of works for the year 2025-26. Indent No. 3240 & 3268 in Two cover system. And vide reference above. The estimate cost is from 3,38,81,075.00 to 4,23,35,054.00 , and EMD Amount is from 5,08,220.00 to 6,35,026.00 . For other information login to https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or in office time get information from under signed office. The tender calendar of events are as below.

Calendar of Events

1) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document, i.e. the Tender schedules, bid documents and other documents in the website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in on payment of transaction fee (non- refundable): From 13-10-2025 11.00 Am to 21.10.2025 @ 5.00 Pm, 2) Pre-Bid meeting : 17.10.2025 @ 11.30 Am, 3) Last Date for submission of quarries if any is on or before: 18.10.2025 @ 5.30 Pm, 4) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents: 21.10.2025 @ 5.00 Pm, 5) Date of Opening of Cover-I Technical Bid: 23.10.2025 @ 11.00 Am, 6) Date of Opening of Cover-II Financial Bid or after approval of Financial bid: 29.10.2025 @ 11.00 Am

Further additional information can be had by visiting website http;// www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in and the office of the under signed during office hours (Phone No 08472-220590). All other terms and conditions as per original tender notification.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL IPC Division.No-1, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/615/KSMC&A/2025-26

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(TIDCO)
CIN-U65993TN1965SGC005327

NOTICE No. TIDCO/FT/IFMS/2025 **Date: 15.10.2025**

Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited, a Government of Tamil Nadu enterprises intend to select an agency to Provide Asset and Integrated Facility Management Services for the Fintech Tower located in the Fintech City, Nandambakkam, Chennai. In this context, TIDCO invites proposals from prospective firms to undertake the above said work. Interested can download the RFP from the website **https://tntenders.gov.in & https://tidco.com.**

The Schedule for the proposal process is as follows: -

1. Pre-bid meeting at **28.10.2025, 03.00 PM** at TIDCO Office, Egmore, Chennai.
2. Last date and time for submission of Proposals/ Bids is on or before **3.00 PM** on **14.11.2025** through **https://tntenders.gov.in**
3. Opening of Technical Proposals/ Bids is at **4.00 PM** on **14.11.2025** at TIDCO Office.

MANAGING DIRECTOR
Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation Ltd
19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Salai,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008
Phone No - 044-2858 9118
E-mail: cmd@tidco.com, Website: https://tidco.com

DIPR/ 5657 /TENDER/2025

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಧಾರವಾಡ
ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:0836–2742221 Email: dszpdharwad@gmail.com

ನಂ: ಧಾಜಿಪಂ/ಆಡಳಿತ/ಇ–8/ಇಆರ್–/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13/10/2025

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ವಿಷಯ: 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ.

2025–26 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ದಾರರು ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆದು ಅಪ್ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕ್ರ ಸಂ	ವಿವರ	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರಕಟಣಾ ವಿವರ
1	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆದ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಹೆಸರು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಳಾಸ	ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ಧಾರವಾಡ.
2	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ	**14/10/2025**
3	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ	**29/10/2025**
4	ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	**31/10/2025**
5	ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ಸ್ಥಳ	ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಧಾರವಾಡ.
6	ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ	ನಂತರ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು

ಸಹಿ/–ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು,
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್, ಧಾರವಾಡ.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/760/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ/2025–26

CBIC TUMAKURU INDUSTRIAL TOWNSHIP LTD
(A Joint Venture of Govt of India & Govt of Karnataka)
(CIN : U74999KA2018PLC118247)
Reg. Office: No.49, 5th Floor, 'East Wing', Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru-560 001. Phone: 91-80-22267383, email: mdcbic24@gmail.com

No. CBIC-TITL/ENGG/ETND-EP-04/2142/2025-26 Date: 14.10.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

EPC Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the work mentioned below:

Name of the Work : Design and Construction of Retaining wall along the edges of ROW up to required height with defect liability period of four years (after successful completion of Infrastructure work) at Tumakuru Node, Phase-A activation area under Chennai Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) On EPC Basis.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **31.10.2025** upto **4.00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer, CBIC-TITL

DIPR/CP/3271/Zen/2025-26

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
ENGINEERING WING
Office of the Chief Engineer, Arogya Soudha, 3rd Floor, Leprosy Hospital Premises,
1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560 023 Phone: 080-29557023 e-mail: cekhsdrp@gmail.com
No:HFWD/EW/CE/TA-1&3/AE-3,4&5/TND/2025-26/2321 Date: 14.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender is invited from eligible contractors registered in KPWD in Two Tender document system in Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Platform for the following works.

Sl. No.	Description of work	Approximate Estimate cost (Rs. in lakhs)	EMD (Rs.in Lakhs)	Stipulated period for Completion (including monsoon)	Contractor Eligibilty
1	Proposed Construction of Super Speciality Hospital in the Existing KIMS at Koppal, Koppal District. (H/A Medical Education)	7721.34	77.21	18 Months	Class I
2	Construction of Compound Wall for 18.00 Acres Land Allotted to Kidwai Institute and Shed room at Dadadhakallahalli, ilvala Hobli, Mysuru. (H/A Medical Education)	135.00	2.05	04 Months	Class III & Above
3	Construction of Nurse Quarters (Twin Block G+1) and Group D (Twin Block G+1) at CHC Hebbal in Chittapur Taluk of Kalaburagi District. (H/A State Sector: 4210-01-110-1-01-422 (SCSP)	162.21	2.44	06 Months	Class III & Above

Calendar of Events: (1) Last date for receipt of tenders: **12.11.2025 up to 16.00 hrs. (2)** Date of Opening of Tenders (Technical Bids): **13.11.2025 at 16.01 hrs**.

The tender details can be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Platform **(www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in).** Tenders shall be submitted electronically at **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Interested eligible contractors shall register on the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Platform to participate in this tender.

NOTE: (1) All the rights are reserved by the undersigned for postponement or cancellation of entire tender process, rejection of bids / individual bid etc., without assigning any reason. **(2)** Hence forth, any changes in the schedule/contents will not be published through newspapers and further changes will be updated only on e-procurement portal.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, HFWD, Engineering Wing, Bengaluru.

Office of the Director, Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA)
9th Floor, Vishweshwaraiah Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560 001. Telephone: 080-22867172/ 22866302 Fax: 080-22863576/ 22861665
e-mail: dmablr@gmail.com
Website: www.municipaladmn.gov.in

No: 1472186/DMA/DEV/AMRT/44/2024 **Date: 14.10.2025**

NOTIFICATION

Directorate of Municipal Administration, Karnataka intends to invite proposals from qualified Credit Rating Agency for the following work.

Sl. No.	Notification No.	Description of work
1	DMA/2025-26/ SE5176/Call 3	Consulting Services for Carrying out Credit Rating for 36 ULBs in Package 1 (South)

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender document publishing date: **14.10.2025.** 2) Pre-bid meeting: **17.10.2025.** 3) Last Date for receipt of Proposals: **28.10.2025.** 4) Opening of Technical Proposals: **29.10.2025.** 5) Presentation on Approach and Methodology: **31.10.2025.** 6) Opening of Financial Proposals: **Will be communicated directly to the Consultants qualifying the Technical Evaluation.**

Link to **KPP Portal - https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Note: Please contact for any additional information and clarifications (during the office hours only)

Joint Director Development,
10th Floor, DMA, V.V. Towers, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560 001. Contact Number: 080-22863731
e-mail address: dmablr.jdd1@gmail.com

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Municipal Administration, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/3270/MAA/2025-26

Flawed order

The transfer of the Karur case to the CBI raises troubling questions

More than two weeks have passed since 41 people died after a crowd crush at a political rally of actor-politician Vijay and his party, the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) in Karur. Yet, far from establishing culpability, the judicial response risks prioritising political narrative over factual inquiry. On October 13, the Supreme Court of India's intervention, transferring the investigation to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and appointing a supervisory committee, was ostensibly meant to restore order after procedural disarray at the Madras High Court. The Court's move seems to have arisen because of the sharp remarks, perhaps unwarranted, by a single judge at the Madras High Court about Mr. Vijay and the TVK, neither of whom was a party in a case about rally protocols that did not directly concern the Karur incident (which fell under the Madurai Bench's jurisdiction). But the Court has created new problems. It has granted the petitioners' demands for a CBI investigation and judicial supervision as "interim relief", yet the measures are irreversible. Once the CBI files a charge sheet, there can be no reversion to State police investigation. The Court's rationale for the CBI transfer is equally problematic. It cites press conferences by senior State officials as attempts to exonerate subordinates, casting a doubt on investigative impartiality. But this amounts to a gag order on public officials. After the incident, Mr. Vijay and his supporters alleged conspiracy. Should State officials refrain from responding to grave allegations amplified across social media merely to appear neutral? Presenting factual evidence, including footage, should not automatically prejudice an investigation. This is too flimsy a ground for a transfer of the case to the CBI, once described by the Court as a caged parrot of the Centre. Ironically, the Court cited *State of West Bengal and Ors. vs The Committee for Protection of Democratic Rights, West Bengal and Ors.* (2010), which warns against ordering CBI investigations "as a matter of routine or merely because a party has levelled some allegations against the local police", undermining its own reasoning.

The order devotes considerable attention to police "inaction" and crowd management failures but makes no mention of the TVK's or leaders' responsibilities in organising the rally. The Court may be seen as pre-judging who was at fault. It notes that the TVK was not made a party in the High Court proceedings, yet does not consider what this could mean for a balanced inquiry. Following the interim order, it is unclear what remains to be adjudicated at the final stage. It remains to be seen how the Court will address allegations that one petitioner was unaware of the petition filed in his name, and that another litigant, who abandoned his family years ago, is not a 'real' representative of a child victim. Justice requires affixing clear responsibility to deter chaos, not proceedings that muddy accountability.

Inflation lessons

The Reserve Bank of India will have to be more accurate in its predictions

The September 2025 retail inflation data, at a 99-month low of 1.54%, has important policy implications for the RBI in particular. Except for August, retail inflation has slowed in every month this financial year. The average rate of inflation for the first half of the fiscal is 2.2%, just within the RBI's comfort band of 2%-6%. When inflation was at the higher end of this band, the RBI had repeatedly said that its target was 4%, and that it would not rest until inflation was at that level. There is an argument to be made for the central bank to strive for that same target now that inflation is repeatedly coming in below that mark. Consistently low inflation means that supply is comfortably outstripping demand. Inflation in the clothing and footwear category, for example, was at 2.3% in September 2025, and has been falling pretty consistently for the last two years. This is not a good place to be in, especially now. Faced with the same oversupply problem, albeit at a much larger scale, China is increasingly depending on demand from abroad to absorb its supply. This has not exactly been India's forte historically, and the current tariff tensions affect exports. The government has tried to stimulate domestic demand through income-tax and GST rate reductions. Households have been using the direct tax rebate to bolster their savings and reduce debt rather than increase consumption. GST rate cuts also led to only a temporary spurt in purchases.

What is needed is a sustained increase in real wages, and for that the private sector needs to step up. It is good news that private sector investment announcements grew strongly in the first half of this year, but those need to translate into real projects on the ground soon. One way that the RBI can help is to cut interest rates significantly in the next Monetary Policy Committee meeting in December. With inflation so low and private investment needing a boost, it is better to err on the side of accommodation than conservatism. The other policy issue the RBI needs to deal with is the inaccuracy of its forecasts. In April, it had predicted that inflation for the year would be 4%. Later, it consistently revised this forecast, arriving at 2.6% at the latest meeting in end-September. While factors influencing inflation are dynamic, such a drastic revision of the forecast in just six months shows that something is wrong with the RBI's estimation process. Since a key aspect of its work is with inflation prediction, this is a deficiency that it should address quickly.

The evolving political dynamics in volatile Bangladesh

Kallol Bhattacherjee

Bangladesh's political landscape is undergoing a rapid transformation ahead of the general election which is to take place in February 2026. Student advisers and the Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami (JEI), Bangladesh's largest Islamist party, which extended support to the interim government from the beginning, are positioning themselves to make the most out of the current set-up and are effectively challenging the older two-party system featuring the Awami League and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).

Signs of this new political configuration were evident when Mohammed Yunus, Chief Adviser to the interim government, was seen at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in the company of Naib Ameer of the JEI, politician Syed Abdullah Mohammed Taher and Tasneem Zara, a young leader from the student-backed and newly formed National Citizen Party (NCP). The delegation also included Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir of the BNP. But the presence of at least two Jamaat leaders and the elderly Alamgir showed that the NCP and the Jamaat have covered a great political distance within the last year.

On the ground

There is considerable frustration among the supporters of the Awami League and the BNP as the leadership in both parties is not responding to the changes that are sweeping across Bangladesh's politics. With the flight of Awami League leaders from the country, Khaleda Zia's BNP was the immediate beneficiary as it was expected to take charge in case an election was held by December 2024 or January 2025. As the interim government delayed the election, the BNP chose to wait and became restive only when it became clear that the students would form their own party. In the process it lost valuable time and suffered reputational damage as Bangladesh was rocked by a series of violent incidents which included the brutal killing of Lal Chand Sohag, a trader in Dhaka on July 9, 2025. The BNP's cadre had to bear the blame.

The former Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, who is based in New Delhi, has been in touch with her party cadre (the Awami League) on the ground but has not held a single press interaction, virtual or in person. She has not designated anyone on the ground in Dhaka as the party has been banned since May 2025 (In October 2024 Awami League's student wing was banned). Neither has she or her colleagues expressed remorse over the loss of lives in the protests of July-August 2024.

At the same time, the BNP's pitch for political power is weak as its top leadership is still in exile.

When senior BNP leaders organised a rally as a show of the BNP's strength in May 2025 and accused Mr. Yunus of delaying elections – the party had demanded elections by December 2025 – the BNP's Acting Chairman, Tarique Rahman, addressed the gathering from his London home (he has been based here for nearly two decades because of his disputes with Ms. Hasina and the military). Sources in the BNP have indicated that he may return in November but there has been no announcement of a definite date for his return.

That the BNP has still not been able to bring back Mr. Rahman from London in what is now a Hasina-free Bangladesh is a sign that its relations with the interim government are not as normal as they may appear. The BNP has not given a clear explanation for Mr. Rahman's absence in Dhaka, with the elections just months away. The Awami League's inability to delegate responsibility to some of its over ground leaders such as Saber Hossain Chowdhury has also not gone down well with the party's traditional supporters. The party's leaders who are in exile have countered this with the line that delegating responsibilities would make local leaders vulnerable to severe actions by the interim government. But the common man in Dhaka is of the opinion that a lack of delegation by Ms. Hasina only reveals the political insecurity of the Sheikh Hasina family.

> With the general election scheduled for February 2026, student activists and the Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami could stump the Bangladesh Nationalist Party and the Awami League

The new players

The NCP and the Jamaat are increasing pressure on Mr. Yunus to ban more political parties and introduce a proportional representation (PR) system for the election. Their argument is that the PR system would ensure a "level playing field for all political parties". In fact, the PR system would increase pressure on the BNP which remains the sole inheritor of the older political system on the ground. The BNP has also been humiliated in campuses after facing defeat in the student union elections at Jahangirnagar University and Dhaka University where Jamaat-backed student panels won. Jamaat-student coordination on campuses is supported by the fact that some of the student activists were trained under the Jamaat's student wing, Shibir.

There are several takeaways from the emerging plot. First, the BNP's long-held argument that an interim government would be apolitical has been proved wrong. During the rule of the Sheikh Hasina-led Awami League, the BNP was the strongest proponent of an interim government to conduct credible elections. Yet, the 2024 interim government, which the BNP had welcomed initially, has in turn thrown up new challengers for the BNP. If the BNP wins the election in 2026 or manages to emerge as the single largest party, it would be because the history of the two-party-led system still has significant appeal in Bangladesh.

The Army's muted stand

Second, the pause in two-party politics under the interim government has been a reality check for the Bangladesh military. Unlike his predecessors such as General Ershad, the current Bangladesh Army chief, Gen. Waker-Uz-Zaman, has refrained from direct interference in the political domain even though the army took over magisterial powers following the serious deterioration in the law and order situation. On occasions, Gen. Zaman has said that the military could step in if the interim government makes compromises in areas that the army considers vital for Bangladesh's security.

The Bangladesh army's real test is expected in winter 2025 when politics will heat up in Dhaka as the International Crimes Tribunal is to deliberate on the future of Ms. Hasina and her colleagues. At the moment, the army appears to be under pressure. In December 2024, Gen. Zaman was successful in scuttling the launch of the so-called July Proclamation that aimed to replace the 1972 constitution. But he could not do this on August 5, 2025 when Mr. Yunus announced it as a guiding document for Bangladesh.

Third, within the nationalism-centric party system of Bangladesh, the Jamaat-e-Islami, with its pro-Pakistan history of 1971, is yet to make a convincing nationalist pitch for the elections as it continues to be an organisation with a transnational ideological network across multiple countries including the United States, the United Kingdom and Pakistan. If the student leaders of the NCP and the Jamaat leadership can continue to keep the BNP under pressure during the interim administration (it has already banned the Awami League), a new political bloc featuring the Jamaat and popular student activists could well emerge as a determining force in the election. The Jamaat has a history of aligning with the BNP as a junior partner during 2001-06 (during 1991-96, it gave outside support to the BNP), but with the students, it could emerge as a senior partner.

Finally, the revival of the Jamaat and its riding the movement with popular student activists would provide it the vehicle that it has been searching for long. With this, it would be able to reinvent its problematic image and merge into the mainstream politics of Bangladesh.

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Powering up the Australia-India clean energy partnership

Lisa Singh

is a former Australian senator and the first woman of Indian heritage to be elected to federal Parliament. She is currently the Chief Executive Officer at the University of Melbourne's Australia India Institute

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At a time when both India and Australia are pushing ambitious clean energy targets, it is timely that Australia's Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Chris Bowen is arriving in Delhi today (October 15) to meet his Indian counterpart, New and Renewable Energy Minister Pralhad Joshi. His visit comes amidst confronting vulnerabilities in the global supply chains of businesses and the government grappling with how to meet ambitious targets in the clean energy transition. The central challenge is clear: how to scale up renewable energy while avoiding an ongoing overdependence on China, which dominates the processing and manufacturing of critical materials.

This is where the India-Australia Renewable Energy Partnership (REP), launched last year by Prime Ministers Narendra Modi and Anthony Albanese, must move from vision to implementation. If it is to succeed, both countries need to focus on joint projects, critical mineral cooperation and capacity building, turning climate ambition into practical, resilient outcomes. Mr. Bowen will have the chance to highlight the significance of this partnership when he delivers the Australia India Institute's Annual Oration in New Delhi this week.

A climate change vulnerable region

The Indo-Pacific is already experiencing the harshest effects of climate change. Between 1970 and 2022, the region averaged nearly 10 climate-related disasters a month, causing thousands of fatalities and billions in losses. By 2050, projections suggest as many as 89 million people could be displaced, with 80% of the region's population directly impacted.

To mitigate the challenges, India has pledged to reach 500 GW of non-fossil electricity capacity by 2030, with about 280 GW to come from solar. And it is already five years ahead of schedule to reach it. In July 2025, half of India's installed electricity capacity is now from non-fossil sources. Meanwhile, Australia has recently set a 62%-70% reduction in emissions below 2005 levels, by 2035, raising its climate ambition in line with net-zero goals.

> It can result in a resilient and regionally anchored clean energy ecosystem

Mr. Bowen said recently on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly that the emission reduction target is 'ambitious and achievable, but also investable'. Yet, targets alone do not insulate against structural risks. The global clean energy transition depends on critical minerals, solar components, batteries and hydrogen technologies.

The risks of single country dependence

Today, much of this value chain is concentrated in one country. China refines over 90% of rare earth elements and produces nearly 80% of global solar modules, giving it a pivotal role in the world's renewable energy supply.

For India, this dependence is acutely felt in sectors such as electric mobility and wind power, where the import of rare earth magnets and battery materials is unavoidable. For Australia, the story is different but connected: while it is one of the world's largest producers of lithium and has rich reserves of cobalt and rare earths, it lacks large-scale refining and downstream manufacturing.

This vulnerability has already been tested. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed supply chain fragilities when component shortages disrupted production across sectors. More recently, China restricted rare earth exports, which sent a warning signal to industries worldwide. For India, such disruptions slowed the electric vehicle production. A leading Electric Vehicle (EV) scooter company, for instance, produced just 10,824 units of its EV scooters in July, nearly halving output from a year earlier. For Australia, they underlined the risks of being a raw-material supplier alone. These examples make clear why downstream processing, diversification and supply chain resilience are not optional but strategic imperatives.

The REP presents a framework to respond to this challenge. It lays out cooperation across eight areas: solar photovoltaic technology, green hydrogen, energy storage, solar supply chains, circular economy in renewables, two-way investment, capacity building, and other shared priorities. Importantly, it also proposes a Track 1.5 Dialogue, bringing together policymakers, industry and research institutions to build practical collaboration.

A strong basis for collaboration

So, what does each side bring to the table? Australia's strengths lie in its resource base and regulatory stability. It can supply India with critical minerals such as lithium and rare earths, but the real value lies in co-investing in refining and processing infrastructure that strengthens the control both countries can have over the clean energy value chain. Australia's recent Net Zero Jobs Plan also reflects its focus on creating the skilled workforce needed for this transition, an area where collaboration with India makes sense.

India's own advantage lies in its scale and youth. With nearly two-thirds of its population under the age of 35, India's demographic dividend can be directed towards clean energy manufacturing, installation and maintenance through programmes such as Skill India. Its growing market demand for solar, storage and hydrogen, combined with production-linked incentive (PLI) schemes, offers Australian firms an avenue to expand investment while helping diversify supply chains. Together, Australia's resources and India's workforce can form the backbone of a more resilient and regionally anchored clean energy ecosystem.

Mr. Bowen's Delhi visit could not have come at a more crucial moment. Cooperation to deliver clean energy together could show the world how two democracies can respond to a region under constant threat of climate-related disasters and deliver resilient clean-energy supply chains to address it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rebuilding Gaza

Post-war reconstruction of Gaza is expected to generate a massive demand for manpower and materials, turning the region into one of the world's largest rebuilding zones. As international aid and funds flow in to clear the debris and rebuild houses, hospitals and infrastructure, India stands to benefit immensely. Beyond construction, Indian health-care professionals, teachers and IT technicians may be sought after to revive essential services and digital systems. Indian construction firms and MSMEs dealing in cement, steel, tiles and solar solutions can also tap into supply contracts through global tenders. Moreover, India's proven expertise in affordable housing, renewable energy and telemedicine can serve as vital tools for Gaza's revival. With proactive diplomatic engagement and government facilitation, this crisis can become a blessing in disguise — enhancing India's overseas employment, boosting remittances and projecting its soft power as a nation contributing to global humanitarian reconstruction.

R.S. Narula,
Patiala, Punjab

Though the present declaration is a welcome step to ensure peace in the region, rebuilding war-torn Gaza from the debris of mass destruction is a very challenging task. It is a *sine qua non* that reconstruction work needs to be taken up on a war footing.

S. Seshadri,
Chennai

West Indies in India

West Indian cricket lost its hegemony several decades ago. With the retirement of fearsome fast bowlers and explosive batsmen, its cricket touched a nadir and never recovered from it. As of now, it is not a force to reckon with. The clean sweep by India was only expected and, hence, this series does not mean much. The Indian cricket team's strength will have to be assessed against a stronger opposition, preferably in overseas conditions. But, this series served as an opportunity for youngsters such as Sai Sudharsan and Dhruv Jurel to stake a claim for a place in the playing eleven of the future ('Sport page', October 14).

V. Lakshmanan,
Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

A green advantage in tractor exports

Aravind Harikumar
Researcher, ICCT

Amit Bhatt,
India Managing Director, ICCT

The government's recent decision to cut the Goods and Services Tax (GST) rate on tractors to 5% is a timely boost for farmers and manufacturers alike. Lower costs are expected to accelerate mechanisation at home, contributing to a stronger domestic manufacturing base to support exports abroad. Yet the global regulatory landscape for such exports is shifting fast, as increasingly stringent emissions standards come into effect in the world's leading markets. India faces a defining choice: cling to low-cost competitiveness or pivot boldly towards cleaner, higher-value machines that can command global markets.

Regulatory limits for emissions

Tractors are the backbone of Indian agriculture. They are used to plough, sow, harvest, irrigate, transport produce, and manage crop residue. Their versatility across crops and terrains has made them indispensable, reducing drudgery and ensuring timely operations. This robust domestic base has propelled India to become a leading global supplier, with tractor exports totaling $1.15 billion and reaching 162 countries in 2024-25. But with growing volumes come growing externalities: an analysis by the International Council on Clean Transportation (ICCT) found that emissions from tractors and other non-road equipment in India are projected to surpass those from road vehicles by 2030. Policy has already begun to shift this trajectory. As discussed in a previous ICCT analysis, India's leap to Bharat Stage (TREM) IV standards for agricultural tractors in 2023 slashed the regulatory limit for particulate emissions by up to 94%, nearly closing the gap with the norms of the United States and European Union. By April 2026, Bharat Stage (TREM) V standards will bring most Indian tractors in line with U.S. Tier 4f and EU Stage V requirements.

These reforms aren't just environmental milestones; they are trade strategies. Regulatory alignment means Indian manufacturers can sell the same tractors in domestic and foreign markets, avoiding compliance costs and supporting economies of scale in production. A recent ICCT working paper on India's tractor exports found that such alignment may already be paying dividends. While overall tractor exports to the U.S. fell by 40% in 2023-24 and 10% in 2024-25, exports in the large segment (75-130 kW), where Indian and U.S. norms align, surged. Meanwhile, in Europe, exports to Belgium surged after the rollout of TREM IV led to a closer alignment of regulatory frameworks: medium-range tractors (37-75 kW) exported in 2023-24 were nearly 200 times the 2022-23 levels, while large tractor exports jumped from virtually zero to $28 million in 2024-25.

When Brazil introduced emission standards for tractors in 2017, the models that Indian manufacturers were selling domestically were already compliant, thanks to standards in effect in India since 2010. That head start gave Indian manufacturers an advantage. After Brazil's MAR-I standards came into effect (in 2017 and 2019), Indian tractor exports to Brazil climbed from $4.5 million in 2017-18 to $88 million in 2024-25 – a staggering CAGR of 65% – further highlighting how regulatory alignment can help enable demand for agricultural machinery.

Emission standards are not a burden but a passport to stronger trade

PHOTO: NAGARA GOPAL

An opportunity

To be clear, many factors influence global trade, and no causal link has been established between emission standards and tractor exports. Indeed, Indian tractor exports have also grown in markets without emission norms, such as Bangladesh, South Africa, and Thailand, where they are valued for reliability and affordability. Still, data from India's top seven tractor export destinations indicate that such exports increased with greater alignment of emission standards, either by enforcement of more stringent norms in India or by the importing country. Faced with rising tariffs in the U.S., Indian manufacturers have an opportunity to reposition themselves not merely as cost-competitive producers, but as higher-value, cleaner-technology suppliers. Cleaner machines often deliver lower lifetime costs, better efficiency, and resilience against future regulatory changes. TREM V's implementation will only strengthen India's standing, enabling smoother entry into Europe and the U.S. while extending leadership in emerging markets.

The lesson is clear: emission standards are not a burden but a passport to stronger trade. As tariffs rise and protectionism spreads, India must reposition itself not just as a low-cost producer but as a leader in clean agricultural machinery. Policy enablers, such as the GST cut and targeted incentives for electric tractors, can reinforce this shift. If India plays its cards right, tractors can do more than transform our farms; they can power our exports. Low-emission, high performance machines will not just meet global demand but set new benchmarks, turning India's tractor industry into a force that drives both rural growth and global trade.

Balancing empowerment with economics

The Stree Shakti scheme has shown early success, but faces a sustainability test

STATE OF PLAY

P. Sujatha Varma
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The Stree Shakti scheme, which offers free bus travel to girls, women, and transgender people across Andhra Pradesh, has been in effect for two months. So far, it has increased ridership, enhanced mobility for women, and generated positive public sentiment. However, beneath this encouraging start lie operational and financial concerns. Questions about sustainability, the strain on transport infrastructure, and equitable access challenge the long-term viability of Stree Shakti.

The scheme was launched on August 15, Independence Day, to highlight the government's resolve to advance women's independence and empowerment. Within the first 30 hours of its introduction, more than 12 lakh women passengers travelled for free by bus. The number has been steadily growing since then. According to data by the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC), around 19.6 lakh women used the free bus service on August 31. By October 6, this number had increased to 28.3 lakh. The daily government subsidy also grew from ₹7.76 crore to ₹10.86 crore during this period and the number of Stree Shakti buses increased from 85 to 121.

This data reflects early success but also points to cost implications and the logistical adjustments needed to sustain such high usage over time. With an estimated annual cost of ₹1,942 crore and a monthly expense of ₹162 crore, the APSRTC will be reimbursed by the State government for the

scheme's costs through the submission of zero-fare tickets. However, the continuous allocation of such substantial funds could strain the State's finances, especially if economic conditions fluctuate.

Another challenge is overcrowding due to the shortage of vehicles in the APSRTC fleet. The waiting period has become long, particularly during peak hours. With the sudden surge in the number of women travelling by RTC buses, men are on the verge of becoming a minority onboard.

Officials have also reported a slight decline in the number of fare-paying passengers.

While trying to manage the existing fleet, they are awaiting the arrival of more than 700 electric buses, which may help ease the situation. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, who is keen on steering the State towards greener public transportation, has announced that all diesel vehicles in the RTC fleet will be replaced with electric buses.

The State Transport Corporation will need to build and maintain a comprehensive electrical ecosystem comprising high tension supply lines with dedicated feeders and substations, scalable charging stations, backup systems, and renewable energy integration. This is imperative not only to support electric mobility, but also to ensure safety, efficiency and resilience, say officials.

While the scheme has given women reason to celebrate, it has not been received well by auto-rickshaw and maxi cab drivers, who have been protesting across the State, citing revenue losses. They have demanded compensation for the income shortfall caused by the scheme. In response, the government announced the Auto Mitra programme, offering financial assistance of ₹15,000 annually to drivers. The drivers want this amount to be increased to ₹30,000 and also want some of their other demands to be fulfilled.

Meanwhile, the APSRTC employees' union has been urging the RTC management to procure more buses in view of the rising occupancy rate. Warning against the continued use of outdated buses, union leaders are demanding that the authorities buy at least 2,500 new buses – both electric and diesel – and also recruit 9,000 employees to reduce dependence on outsourcing.

The workers are also worried about the government's plan to operate electric vehicles under the Gross Cost Contract Model. Under this system, State Transport Units hire private bus operators to run electric buses. The government owns the buses, and private operators manage operations and maintenance under a contract, earning a fixed amount per kilometre. The proposed model has sparked fears of privatisation among workers of the State-run transport corporation.

The Stree Shakti is a significant step towards empowering women and has already delivered promising results. However, it also faces challenges related to implementation and financial sustainability. Addressing these concerns is essential to ensuring the scheme's long-term success.

Cybercrime cases of cheating by personation surge in Karnataka

Even as these cases surge, the police charge-sheeting rate and the conviction rate remain weak

DATA POINT

Devyanshi Bihani

According to government data, cybercrimes such as fake job offers, online investment frauds, fraudulent social media profiles, and impersonation scams have surged in recent years. The increase is most pronounced in Karnataka, which, in 2023, accounted for more than 70% of all such cases in India. Also, only about one in four such offences is charge-sheeted, and only around one in three of those that reach court ends in conviction. This suggests that many perpetrators go scot-free.

These types of cybercrimes fall under Section 66D of the Information Technology Act, 2000, which states: "Whoever, by means of any communication device or computer resource, cheats by personating, shall be punished with imprisonment of up to three years and a fine of up to one lakh rupees."

India has seen a sharp rise in cybercrime cases – from about 53,000 in 2021 to 66,000 in 2022 and roughly 86,400 in 2023. Karnataka alone accounted for more than a quarter of all cases reported nationwide in 2023 **(Map 1)**.

Karnataka's share of India's total cybercrime cases fell from a pre-pandemic high of over 25% in 2019 to 21% in 2020, 15% in 2021, and 19% in 2022, before rising again in 2023 **(Chart 2)**.

The sharp rise in cybercrime has been driven largely by cases under Section 66D ('cheating by personation using a computer resource'), especially in Karnataka. In the State, Section 66D's share of all cybercrime cases rose from 8.5% in 2019 to 70% in 2021 and 83% in 2023. Nationally, 66D's share in all cybercrime cases increased from 12% in 2019 to 21% in 2021 and 29% in 2023 **(Chart 3)**.

The cybercrime cases under 66D include instances such as the 'deepfake' video of actor Rashmika Mandanna that went viral in 2023. During the same year, a person posing as an official from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India cheated a senior officer in the State Finance Department, which again falls under this Section. Another recent example is a case registered this month in Kashmir against five people for allegedly circulating a forged National Health Mission job selection list.

However, Karnataka should not be singled out as a cybercrime hotspot simply because case numbers are rising. Higher counts may reflect better trained police and more proactive recording of crimes. Karnataka was the first State to establish a dedicated city-level cybercrime police station. Under the Bengaluru City Police, eight cybercrimes, economic and narcotic offences units were set up in March 2017.

Nationally, the worrying trend is that while cybercrime numbers are rising, both the police charge-sheeting rate and the conviction rate in courts remain dismal.

In 2023, the charge-sheeting rate for Section 66D offences was just 25% in India (one in four), below the overall cybercrime average of 33.9%.

The conviction picture is troubling too: for Section 66D, only 33% (one in three) of cases that reached trial ended in conviction in India, only slightly higher than the 27.6% conviction rate across all cybercrime cases **(Chart 4).**

Such low conviction rates raise questions about gaps in investigation, evidence handling, and legal preparedness. At Shield 2025, a cybersecurity conference held in Hyderabad earlier this year, a retired Supreme Court judge said the judicial system needs specialised training for lawyers, prosecutors, and judges handling cybercrime. In the same conference, Inspector General (Cybercrime), Rajasthan, voiced similar concerns, stressing that investigating officers must be digitally adept and be trained to respond quickly.

Digital fraud on the rise

The data for the charts were sourced from the National Crime Records Bureau (2019-2023)

Map 1: The State-wise share of total cybercrime cases across India in 2023

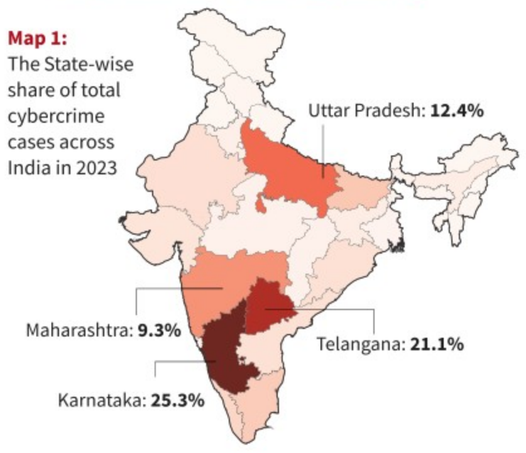


Chart 2: Karnataka's share in India's total cybercrime cases from 2019 to 2023

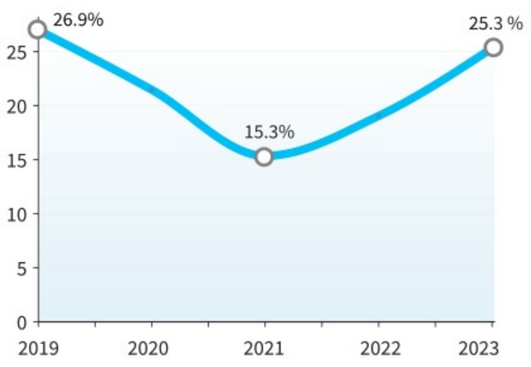


Chart 3: The share of cheating by personation cases (Section 66D) in total cybercrime cases from 2019 to 2023

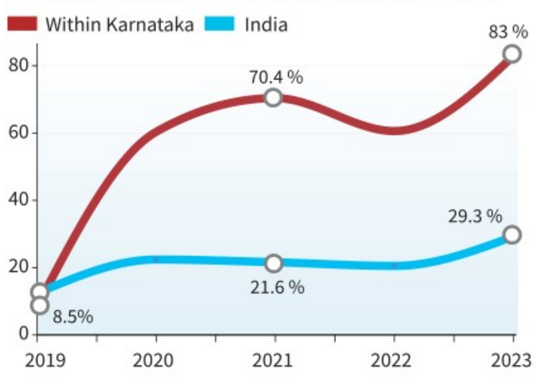
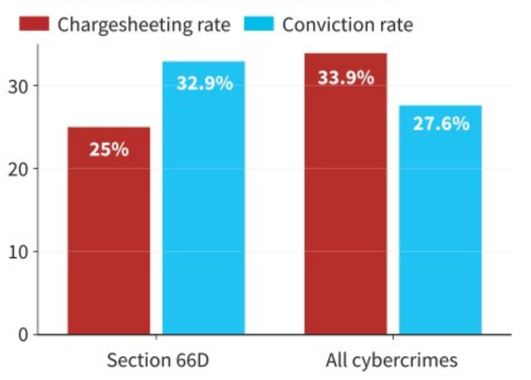


Chart 4: The charge-sheeting and conviction rates for Section 66D and all cybercrime cases in 2023



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO OCTOBER 15, 1975

Two share Nobel Prize in Economics

Stockholm, Oct. 14: Prof. Tjalling C. Koopmans of the U.S. and Prof. Leonid Kantorovich of the Soviet Union to-day shared the 1975 Nobel Prize in Economics for their study into the supply and demand of goods and services.

Mr. Koopmans (65) is a Professor at Yale University while Mr. Kantorovich (63) is a Professor at the Siberian Department of the Soviet Academy of Sciences.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, in giving the two men the Alfred Nobel Memorial Prize, said they had studied the problem "of how the available productive resources can be used to the greatest advantage in the production of goods and services."

It said the field embraced such questions as "what goods should be produced, what methods of production should be used, how much of current production should be consumed and how much redistributed to create new resources for future production and consumption."

The Academy said that though both worked independently of one another, both had "developed methods for the analysis of the classical problem of economics as regards the optimum allocation of scarce resources."

Prof. Kantorovich became a member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in 1964 and holds three Orders of Lenin, including the Lenin Prize. He has worked on problems of the socialist economy, price formation, theory of rent efficiency and capital investment.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 15, 1925

Madras X-ray institute

Mr. T. Subbaraya Mudaly, Retired Civil Surgeon, writes from Chingleput, under date October 12: The following extract from "The Lancet" dated September 19, will interest the Madras public, showing as it does the high opinion held in London of the X-Ray work, done in the Madras Government Institute – "The advance which has been made in the scientific application of photography is strikingly shown at the Exhibition of the Royal Photographic Society which opened its doors on Sept 14th at 35, Russell Square, London. Though pictorial prints never fail to interest the artistic sense, it is in scientific work that photography finds its real usefulness and in the camera research had found a most powerful ally."

From Page One

SC questions ED over T.N. liquor-scam probe

In its 2022 verdict, the court had held that providing a copy of the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) to the accused is not mandatory in every instance. While TASMAC has argued that it was denied access to the ECIR in the present proceedings, the ED maintained that the ECIR is merely an "internal administrative document" and that no legal right exists for the accused to obtain a copy.

This marks the second occasion in six months that the court has questioned the ED's conduct in the case. In a previous hearing on May 22, the Chief Justice had orally observed that the agency was "crossing all limits" while ordering an interim stay on its probe. The Madras High Court had earlier declined to grant such a stay.

Appearing for TASMAC, senior advocate Kapil Sibal submitted that the State Vigilance Department had already registered 47 FIRs relating to alleged irregularities between 2014 and 2021.

Referring to ED's searches at TASMAC's corporate offices in 2015, he asked, "How can you raid government offices? What happens to the federal structure of this country?"

Citing Section 66 (2) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), Mr. Sibal contended that the provision requires the ED to share information regarding offences with the State authorities conducting parallel investigations, which had not been done.

Mr. Raju, for the ED, countered that there was "large-scale corruption" and that the agency was investigating only the money-laundering component. He maintained that the "predicate offence", which forms the basis for ED action, was established through FIRs registered by the State itself, and that the agency had uncovered incriminating material during its probe.

To this, the Chief Justice remarked, "Law and order must operate within its own domain... what happens to the federal structure otherwise?"

When the Bench pointed out that the State had already filed multiple FIRs, Mr. Raju remarked, "They have also closed 37 FIRs in a short time. They are attempting to cut off the ED by closing the FIRs."

As the hearing progressed, the Chief Justice, however, refrained from making any adverse comments on the ED's functioning. "In the last six years, I have seen many cases of the ED. But I do not want to say something, else it will again be reported (in the media)," he said.

Responding to this, Mr. Raju said the media seldom reported favourably on the agency's work.

61 Maoists, including top leaders, surrender

An official said that after an encounter in Chhattisgarh, Bhupati was sceptical about surrendering there. "With the kind of resistance from the Telangana Naxal leadership against his idea of surrendering, he was not sure if he could traverse a long distance and reach Hyderabad safely to surrender," the official said, adding that Bhupati also saw "the treatment given to others who had surrendered in Maharashtra, including his wife".

"The official surrender will take place in front of the Chief Minister of Maharashtra on Wednesday morning," an official said.

A commerce graduate from Pedapalli in Telangana, Bhupati was a Polit Bureau member of the CPI (Maoist) and is the brother of Kishenji, the dreaded Maoist leader gunned down in 2011 in West Bengal. Another sibling, Azad, was also a Maoist killed 20 years ago.

Since the start of the insurgency in Maharashtra in 1980, 1,522 Maoists have surrendered, 4,123 have been arrested and 347 have been killed in operations, show government data.

'Pak. lost over 100 soldiers in Operation Sindoor'

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

More than 100 Pakistani soldiers were killed in India's targeted operations along the Line of Control (LoC) following the Pahalgam terror attack, Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) Lt. Gen. Rajiv Ghai said on Tuesday.

Speaking at the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCC) conclave at Manekshaw Centre in Delhi, Lt. Gen. Ghai said the Indian response to the terror strike, Operation Sindoor, was "targeted, controlled, and non-escalatory".

Pakistan's own admissions later revealed the extent of its losses, he said. "Their awards list shows a large number of posthumous gallantry medals. That tells us their casualties on the LoC were in excess of 100," he noted. Addressing the Army chiefs of 30 countries, the DGMO revealed that India's strikes were executed with the full awareness of potential Pakistani retaliation.

Congress targets Modi after Trump hails Pak. Army chief

Party says U.S. President 'endorsing India's enemies' on global stage despite Modi's claims of close friendship with Trump; it seeks answers from PM on why govt. failed to isolate Pak. internationally

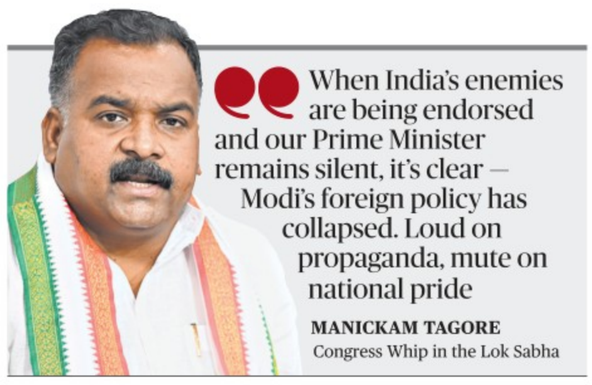
The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Tuesday criticised the Modi government after U.S. President Donald Trump publicly praised Pakistan Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir. The party questioned its implications for India.

The Congress said Mr. Trump was "endorsing India's enemies" on global stage despite Prime Minister Narendra Modi's repeated claims of close friendship with him.

At a world leaders' summit in Egypt on Monday, Mr. Trump invited Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to speak, calling him and General Munir "friends of peace".

Congress communications in-charge Jairam Ramesh said the Prime Minister's "desperate attempts to ingratiate himself" with the U.S. President seemed hollow in light of the American leader's actions.



> When India's enemies are being endorsed and our Prime Minister remains silent, it's clear — Modi's foreign policy has collapsed. Loud on propaganda, mute on national pride
>
> **MANICKAM TAGORE**
> Congress Whip in the Lok Sabha

"President Trump hosted Field Marshal Asim Munir to an unprecedented lunch at the White House on June 18, 2025 – the same man whose inflammatory statements preceded the Pahalgam terror attack orchestrated by Pakistan," Mr. Ramesh said on X.

The U.S. President again met General Munir on September 26, when the Pakistani commander gifted him a box of rare earth minerals.

"Now, in Egypt, President Trump calls Munir his 'favourite Field Marshal'. What kind of friendship is this?" the Congress leader asked.

Disaster, not diplomacy

In a separate X post, the Congress Whip in the Lok Sabha, Manickam Tagore, said: "The world is not standing with India, it's now praising those who target India."

"This is not diplomacy, this is disaster," Mr. Tagore said. "Where is the 56-inch diplomacy now? Where is the 'strong leader' who said he would isolate Pakistan internationally?"

"When India's enemies are being endorsed and our PM remains silent, it's clear – Modi's foreign policy has collapsed. Loud on propaganda, mute on national pride," Mr. Tagore said.

At the summit in Egypt, Mr. Trump also said he believed "India and Pakistan will live very nicely together", describing India as "a great country with a very good friend of mine at the top".

The Pakistan Prime Minister suggested nominating Mr. Trump for the Nobel Peace Prize for "saving millions of lives".

The U.S. President has repeatedly claimed credit for mediating peace between India and Pakistan in May, asserting that he brokered ceasefire following Operation Sindoor .

However, India maintains that the cessation of hostilities was from direct talks between the Directors General of Military Operations of both nations.

India Post to resume mail services to U.S. from today

R. Suryamurthy

India will resume all categories of international postal services to the United States from October 15, ending a nearly two-month suspension triggered by changes in U.S. customs regulations.

The Department of Posts said it had established a compliant mechanism to meet new U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) rules, which had forced India to halt shipments on August 22.

The resumption follows coordination between India Post and CBP-approved "qualified parties". Under the new setup, import duties on parcels sent to the U.S. will be collected upfront in India and remitted directly to the CBP through these qualified parties.

"This ensures full regulatory compliance, faster customs clearance, and seamless delivery," the Ministry of Communications said.

This article is published in an arrangement with 5WH.

ASI ends life after accusing late IPS officer of corruption

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

In a twist in the suicide case of IPS officer Y. Puran Kumar, an assistant sub-inspector of Haryana Police, Sandeep Kumar, ended his life on Tuesday after accusing the deceased officer and his family of corruption in a letter and a video.

Puran, a 2001-batch IPS officer, allegedly ended his life on October 7 at his residence in Chandigarh. He accused eight senior police officers of "blatant caste-based discrimination, targeted mental harassment, public humiliation and atrocities" in a note.

Sandeep, posted in Rohtak's cyber cell, shot himself with his service revolver in Laadoth village, said the police. Rohtak Superintendent of Police Surinder Singh Bhoria described the deceased as a "hard working" and "honest" policeman. He said the note found at the spot and the video were matters of investigation.

Sandeep was part of the team probing a case against the deceased IPS officer's gunman Sushil Kumar, who has been accused of extorting money from a liquor trader.

In a four-page note found at the spot, Sandeep, a resident of Jind's Julana, said freedom fighter Bhagat Singh was his ideal and he was making the first "sacrifice" in the fight for justice. He said that the late IPS officer was "corrupt" and had killed himself fearing arrest in a corruption complaint against him. He alleged that the officer had attempted to give his death a caste and political colour in his "final" note.

In the handwritten note, Sandeep said some IAS officers in Haryana were involved in large-scale corruption, but a few honest officers had managed to curb it to a large extent.

Former Haryana Minister Subhash Batra expressed concern at the manner in which the suicide case of Puran is being handled.

Wrong message being sent to Dalits: Rahul Gandhi on IPS officer's death case

Vikas Vasudeva
CHANDIGARH

Amid the demand for action against the key accused in Haryana IPS officer Y. Puran Kumar's death case, the Haryana government has sent Director General of Police (DGP) Shatrujeet Kapur on leave.

According to a Haryana Government Order dated October 14, the additional charge of DGP has been assigned to Om Parkash Singh, currently Managing Director of Haryana Police Housing Corporation.

Meanwhile, Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, met the family of the deceased officer in Chandigarh.

"There are scores of Dalits to whom a wrong message is going. The message being conveyed is that it doesn't matter that how much successful, capable or intelligent you are, but if you are a Dalit then you could be suppressed, which is not acceptable to us," Mr. Gandhi told presspresons.

Rahul Gandhi with Haryana Congress chief Rao Narender Singh pays tribute to the late police officer in Chandigarh on Tuesday. ANI

"There should an immediate action against the officers (accused). They should be arrested. The family's message is clear, they were disrespected, attempts were made to finish the career of the deceased officer. Now, after his death, respect is not being given, it's not acceptable. And, yes, this is correct, it's not about respect of one family, it's about the respect of every Dalit brother and sister," he said.

"My message as LoP to the Prime Minister and to Chief Minister of Haryana is that please take action against the officers and keep away the pressure on the family," he added.

Eight days after the officerallegedly died by suicide, his autopsy remains pending as his family has refused to allow the post-mortem to proceed until two key accused in the case - Haryana Director General of Police Shatrujeet Kapur and former Rohtak Superintendent of Police Narendra Bijarniya are arrested. The State government has already transferred Mr. Bijarniya.

Two terrorists killed during infiltration bid in north J&K

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The Army on Tuesday said two terrorists were killed in an anti-infiltration operation close to the Line of Control (LoC) in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

The Army said there was a bid to infiltrate terrorists from the Machil Sector.

"Alert troops spotted suspicious activity and challenged, which resulted in terrorists opening indiscriminate fire. Troops responded with effective fire, neutralising two terrorists," the Army said.

The Army said a large quantity of weapons and equipment recovered were from the encounter site.

"Operation is in progress," the Army added.

The operation was launched on Monday afternoon, following intelligence from the J&K Police. "It was corroborated by sources and agencies, regarding likely infiltration attempt," the Army said.

SC to hear plea on '*mala fide* detention' of Wangchuk today

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday adjourned to Wednesday the hearing of a *habeas corpus* petition filed by Gitanjali J. Angmo, wife of climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, challenging his preventive detention under the National Security Act (NSA), 1980, following the September 24 violence in Leh.

A Bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N.V. Anjaria deferred the matter on a request by senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Ms. Angmo, who informed the court that he was required to appear before a special Bench led by Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai at 2 p.m. in another case.

On October 6, the court issued notice to the Union government and the Ladakh administration, but left it to the authorities to decide whether the grounds of Mr. Wangchuk's detention could be shared with his wife.

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, representing both the Centre and the Ladakh administration, had submitted that the detention grounds were "immediately" furnished to Mr. Wangchuk, and that "there was no further obligation" to share them with anyone else. Mr. Sibal had countered that without access to these grounds, Dr. Angmo would be "handicapped" in arguing the *habeas corpus* plea and demonstrating the arbitrariness of the detention.

Dashboard to keep track of govt. litigation launched

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, on Tuesday inaugurated the "Live Cases" dashboard under the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS), designed to provide real-time data visualisation of court cases and offer an overview of upcoming hearings.

Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal inaugurated the dashboard, describing it as "a significant step towards enhancing transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government litigation management."

According to official data, the portal currently tracks 7,23,123 live cases from 53 ministries and departments.

India to train border security force of Mongolia, says Modi

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India will start a new programme to help in capacity building for the border security force of Mongolia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Tuesday.

Welcoming visiting Mongolian President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa, Mr. Modi highlighted common Buddhist bonds between Mongolia and India. He announced that holy relics of two of Lord Buddha's leading disciples would travel to Mongolia next year. He also said that India would start issuing free e-visas for Mongolian citizens.

"Our defence and security cooperation is also steadily strengthening. We have launched several new initiatives, from training programmes to the appointment of a Defence Attaché at the Embassy. India will also launch a new capacity-building programme for Mongolia's border security forces," Mr. Modi said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mongolia President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa at a press conference in New Delhi on Wednesday. ANI

Explaining the announcement, senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs said India and Mongolia already had joint defence exercises, saying, "They are interested and they see a lot of benefits of training with us."

Mr. Modi highlighted common Buddhist links between India and Mongolia and said, "I am happy to announce that next year, the holy relics of two great disciples of Lord Buddha – Sariputra and Maudgalyayana – will be sent from India to Mongolia."

The two sides signed 10 MoUs covering areas such as immigration, cooperation, humanitarian aid, geology and mineral resources, and yoga.

20 killed, 16 injured in Jaisalmer bus fire

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Twenty persons were killed and 16 injured when a bus caught fire near Thaiyat village in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan on Tuesday. The bus was on its way from Jaisalmar to Jodhpur.

Several of the injured, including women and children, are reported to be in a critical condition.

The injured were rushed to the Jawahar Government Hospital in Jaisalmer and later referred to Jodhpur.

Most of them are said to have sustained up to 70% burns. The fire started from the rear section of the air-conditioned sleeper bus.

There were 57 passengers on board the private vehicle.

APPEAL

47 years old Poongodi needs to undergo Complex Open Heart Surgery at The Madras Medical Mission, Chennai. The surgery cost is **Rs.6,44,000/-**. She is a widow with 2 children. Her daughter only takes care of her. It is very difficult for her to meet the surgery cost. Please give a new lease of life to the lady with your generous contribution. The donation sent through Ch/D.D/M.O/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No.60182010063310, IFSC No.CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is requested.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd. Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/31523781/7338978027.**
Email ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

WWS

BIHAR ASSEMBLY POLLS

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta to canvass votes in Bihar

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the lone woman to hold the post among the 14 BJP-ruled States, will campaign for the Bihar Assembly election, and be present when Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sinha files his nomination papers, officials said on Tuesday.

Ms. Gupta will reach Lakhisarai on Wednesday, where she will accompany Mr. Sinha as he files his nomination, and will address a public meeting at the KRK ground there, according to officials at the Delhi CM's office. Later in the day, Ms. Gupta will address a public meeting in Bihar Sharif in support of the local BJP candidate, Sunil Kumar. She will return to Delhi on the same day, the officials said.

She will campaign in different Assembly seats in Bihar for at least six days, BJP leaders said.

Rekha Gupta will campaign for both phases of polling in the State. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Sharjeel recalls plea for bail to contest election

A day after filing a bail plea to contest the upcoming Bihar Assembly election, activist Sharjeel Imam on Tuesday withdrew the same from a Delhi court. Advocate Ahmad Ibrahim, counsel representing Mr. Imam, submitted in the court of Additional Sessions Judge Sameer Bajpai that his client's regular bail plea was pending before the Supreme Court, and so the top court would be the 'proper' forum to file the plea for interim relief as well. The court allowed the withdrawal request. The plea had stated that he wanted to contest the Bihar election as an Independent candidate. The Delhi Police have invoked the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) against Mr. Imam in the Delhi riots case. He had sought bail from October 15 to 29 to file his nomination papers.

"Grand alliance is not getting support of the people, so they are indulging in malicious propaganda. NDA is united under Nitish's leadership

RAJIV RANJAN SINGH
JD(U) leader and Union Minister

Kishor not to take on Tejashwi in Raghopur

Speculation was put to rest on talk that Prashant Kishor may contest against Tejashwi Yadav as the Jan Suraaj Party (JSP) on Tuesday declared its candidate from Raghopur, where the RJD leader is aiming for a hat-trick of victories.Chanchal Singh will contest from Raghopur, a seat in Vaishali district. PTI

"I do not believe that joining a party makes you a politician; I am here to serve society. I am the daughter of Mithila, my soul resides in Mithila

MAITHILI THAKUR
Folk singer who has joined the BJP

All together: Ticket seekers gather outside RJD chief Lalu Prasad's residence ahead of the Bihar Assembly election in Patna. ANI

BJP first list out, both Deputy CMs get call; Speaker not among the 71 names

Only nine woman on the list; Speaker Nand Kishore Yadav replaced in Patna Sahib by a new face, Ratnesh Kushwaha; party changes candidates in seven constituencies where it lost in the 2020 election; it retains Lalganj and Hajipur in Vaishali district and Hisua in Nawada, all eyed by LJP(RV)

IN FOCUS

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

The BJP's Central Election Committee (CEC) released its first list of 71 candidates for the Bihar election on Tuesday. Only nine of them are women.

Two members of the Bihar Legislative Council are being fielded for the Assembly: Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, who last contested an Assembly election in 2010, is now being fielded from Tarapur and Health Minister Mangal Pandey will contest the Siwan seat.

Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Kumar Sinha is being retained as the candidate from Lakhisarai. He is among the 13 State Ministers being fielded for election. The first list includes 46 MLAs.

10 MLAs dropped

However, 10 MLAs have been dropped, and they include Speaker Nand Kishore Yadav, who has been replaced in Patna Sahib by a new face, Ratnesh Kushwaha.

"I stand by the Bharatiya Janata Party's decision. The BJP has given me a lot. I have no complaints with the party. The new generation is welcomed and congratulated. The people of Patna Sahib have made me victorious seven consecutive times. I will never forget the affection and love they gave me as a BJP candidate. I am grateful to everyone," Mr. Yadav said in a statement.

The other MLAs dropped are Motilal Prasad (Riga), Ramprit Paswan (Rajnagar), Jai Prakash Yadav (Narpatganj), Ram Surat Kumar (Aurai), Nikki Hembram (Katoria), Arun Sinha (Kumhrar), Amrendra Pratap (Ara), Pranav Kumar (Munger), and Swarna Singh (Gaura Bauram), who has contested the previous Assembly election as a Vikasheel Insan Party (VIP) candidate, and later joined BJP.

New faces

Former MP Ram Kripal Yadav, who lost the Patliputra Lok Sabha seat in the 2024 election to Misa Bharti of the Rashtriya Janata Dal, has now been fielded from Danapur.

The BJP has changed its candidates in seven constituencies where it had lost in the 2020 election – Sitamarhi, Siwan, Danapur, Bikram, Arwal, Aurangabad, and Gurua. There has also been some seat exchanges among allies in the ruling NDA, with BJP candidates set to contest in Tegra and Tarapur, which had been previously contested by Janata Dal(U) candidates.

Left out: Ticket seekers stage a protest at the BJP State president's office in Patna on Tuesday. ANI

Rama Nishad, who joined the BJP on Monday, along with her husband and former MP, Ajay Nishad, has been rewarded a day later by being named the party's candidate from Aurai. The other women candidates are Shreyasi Singh (Jamui), Aruna Devi (Warsaliganj), Kavita Devi (Korha), Nisha Singh (Pranpur), Sweety Singh (Kishanganj), Devanti Yadav (Narpatganj), Gaytri Devi (Parihar), and former Deputy Chief Minister Renu Devi (Bettiah).

Maithili Thakur, a folk and devotional musician from Mithilanchal, joined the BJP on Tuesday in the presence of BJP State president Dilip Kumar Jaiswal. The party is likely to field her from Alinagar in Darbhanga district.

"All communities have been represented in the first list. Twenty Other Backward Class candidates, 11 of the Extremely Backward Classes, and six of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are on the first list. More than 50% of the ticket have gone to deprived communities," BJP media in-charge Danish Iqbal said.

"Eleven Bhumihars, seven Brahmins, 15 Rajputs, and 15 Kayasthas have been given ticket. New faces have got adequate representation in seats such as Kumhrar, Patna Sahib, Rajnagar and Aurangabad."

The BJP has chosen to retain the Lalganj and Hajipur Assembly seats, both in Vaishali district, bucking the expectation that they would go to its ally, the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), led by Chirag Paswan. The LJP(RV) was also known to be eyeing the Hisua seat in Nawada district, which the BJP has retained as well.

The seat adjustment within the NDA was finalised on Sunday. The BJP and JD(U) will contest 101 seats each, with the LJP (RV) getting 29 seats. The Rashtriya Lok Morcha led by Upendra Kushwaha, and the Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) led by Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi, got 6 seats each.

HAM(S) list

The Hindustani Awam Morcha (Secular) named all six of its candidates on Tuesday, with ticket going to party leader Jitan Ram Manjhi's daughter-in-law Deepa Kumari (Imamganj) and his sister-in-law Jyoti Devi (Barachatti). Anil Kumar has been fielded from Tikari, Rohit Kumar from Atri, Praful Kumar Manjhi from Sikandra, and Lalan Ram from Kutumba.

The other NDA partners have not yet released their candidate lists. However, a few JD(U) candidates filed their nominations on Tuesday, including Anant Singh (Mokama), Bijendra Prasad Yadav (Supaul), and JD(U) State president Umesh Singh Kushwaha (Mahnar).

Confusion continues in grand alliance

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

With just three days remaining to the deadline for filing nominations for the first phase of elections to the Bihar Assembly, the *Mahagatbandhan*, or grand alliance, is yet to declare division of seats among its allies. Amid the confusion, each party is finalising its list of candidates and intense negotiations are on between the allies to swap seats.

The deadline for filing nominations for the 121 seats that go to the polls in the first phase is October 17.

The second meeting of the Congress Election Committee (CEC) was held on Tuesday evening. After a three-hour meeting, the CEC decided to set up a four-member committee, headed by Ajay Maken, which will decide on the candidates after the seat-sharing negotiations are over. The Congress is expected to contest 58-60 seats but there are differences over five seats with the RJD.

The Congress, in its first round of CEC meeting, had cleared 25 seats.

On Monday night, Rashtriya Janata Dal president Lalu Prasad, according to sources, had distributed the party symbol to half a dozen candidates. When the Leader of the Opposition in the Bihar Assembly and RJD's chief ministerial face, Tejashwi Yadav, returned to Patna, he overturned his father's decision, asking the leaders to return the symbol for now.

The Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation, meanwhile, has started preparing to file nominations for at least 18 seats that have been cleared between the allies.

CPI(ML) candidate

Divya Gautam, the late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's cousin, has been named as the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) Liberation's candidate. Rajput was found dead in June 2020 at his residence in Mumbai.

The Mumbai Police investigation revealed that he had died by suicide and the BJP ran a campaign "Justice for Sushant" before the 2020 Assembly election, alleging that there was foul play in his death.

Ms. Gautam, a theatre artist and former All India Students' Association (AISA) leader, has been fielded from the Digha Assembly contituency. She is scheduled to file her nomination on Wednesday. She had contested the Patna University Students Union election but narrowly lost. She currently teaches at Patna University.

The CPI(ML), however, is yet to formally release its list of candidates.

VIP climbs down

Vikassheel Insaan Party leader Mukesh Sahani, who began negotiations demanding 35 seats, has now agreed to settle for a share of 25 seats.

According to sources, the allies want to offer him fewer seats. There was speculation that Mr. Sahani, who switched sides from the ruling National Democratic Alliance to the grand alliance recently, was also negotiating with the BJP.

But with the NDA declaring its seat sharing arrangement, options are limited for Mr. Sahani.

Discontent grows in JD(U) over ticket distribution, seat-sharing; 3 leaders file nomination before release of party list

Amarnath Tewary
Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Two days after the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA) declared its seat-sharing arrangement, cracks have begun to show within the Janata Dal (United).

On Tuesday, party MP Ajay Kumar Mandal offered to resign, alleging that the party leadership had denied him access to JD(U) president and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. In another incident, Gopal Mandal, MLA and party leader, staged a sit-in outside the Chief Minister's residence, citing similar grievances.

Besides, at least three party leaders filed nominations even before the JD(U) formally released its list of candidates.

Unhappy with LJP(RV)

According to sources, the decision to place the JD(U) at par with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which had so far been a junior partner in the alliance, has not gone down well with a section of the party.

The JD(U) leadership is also unhappy with the BJP's decision to give 29 seats to the Chirag Paswan-led Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas).

Ticket matters: Janata Dal(U) MLA Gopal Mandal (second from left) staging a dharna outside Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's residence in Patna on Tuesday. PTI

JD(U) working president Sanjay Jha maintains that 'all is well' within the NDA

In the 2020 Assembly election, Mr. Paswan, then heading a united LJP, had run a campaign against Mr. Nitish Kumar and fielded candidates against the JD (U), reducing the party to 43 seats.

Ajay Kumar Mandal, Lok Sabha member for Bhagalpur, posted a two-page letter on social media, blaming the party leadership for not consulting him on candidate selection for the Assembly constituencies coming under his Lok Sabha constituency. He also complained that he was not allowed to meet Mr. Kumar. "If outsiders or inactive individuals continue to be prioritised, the party's roots will weaken and this will directly impact the leadership of the Chief Minister, which is a matter of concern for all of us," Mr. Ajay Mandal wrote to the Chief Minister, seeking his permission to resign as Lok Sabha member.

Meanwhile, Mr. Gopal Mandal, aka Narendra Kumar Niraj, MLA for Gopalpur in Bhagalpur district, sat on a dharna outside the Chief Minister's official residence – 1 Anne Marg – amid speculation that he was denied ticket. Mr. Gopal Mandal, who often hits the headlines for the wrong reasons and controversial remarks, has been a staunch supporter of Mr. Kumar.

Additionally, at least three JD(U) leaders filed their nomination papers ahead of the party issuing the list of candidates. JD(U) State president Umesh Kushwaha filed his papers from the Mahnar constituency in Vaishali district, Bijendra Prasad Yadav, a multi-term legislator and Cabinet Minister, from Supaul, and former party MLA and local strongman Anant Singh from Mokama.

JD(U) working president Sanjay Jha maintained that "all is well" within the NDA. "Someone is plotting against us spreading such rumours...," he said.

Get advertisements pre-certified, EC tells parties ahead of polls

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Bihar Assembly election, the Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday directed political parties to get advertisements pre-certified, and asked candidates to inform it about their "authentic" social media accounts while filing nominations.

The election will be held in two phases on November 6 and 11, followed by counting of votes on November 14.

In a statement on Tuesday, the EC said it had issued orders on October 9, requiring every registered, national and state political party, and every candidate to apply to the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee for pre-certification of all political advertisements on electronic media, including social media, before publication.

The statement said such committees had been constituted at the district and State levels for pre-certification of political advertisements under the prescribed guidelines and no political advertisements were to be released to any Internet-based media or websites, including social media websites, by political parties or candidates without pre-certification by the respective committee.

Panels have been constituted at the district and State levels for certifying political ads.

These panels shall keep a strict vigilance on suspected cases of paid news in the media and take suitable action.

The poll panel said that bulk SMS and audio messages during the 48-hour "silence period", which starts before the conclusion of voting, is prohibited.

"Further, given the penetration of social media in the electoral landscape, candidates have also been instructed to share the details of their authentic social media accounts at the time of filing nomination," it said.

Political parties should also submit a statement of expenditure incurred on campaigning through Internet, including social media websites, to the EC within 75 days of the completion of the election.

INBRIEF

Union govt. staff protest over workplace harassment case

Officers of the Central Secretariat Services (CSS) on Tuesday held a peace march at Shastri Bhavan and participated in a sit-in protest outside the office of the Social Justice Secretary, over what they called "prolonged inaction" on the allegations of workplace harassment levelled by Ministry official Deepak Khoda. Mr. Khoda had attempted suicide weeks ago, alleging workplace harassment, following which his father had filed a police complaint at the Kartavya Path police station. In a statement, the CSS said their representatives met the Social Justice Minister earlier this week and were assured of necessary action.

BJP worker strangled to death by Maoists in Bijapur

A Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) worker was murdered by Maoists who suspected that the victim was a police informer, the police said on Tuesday. The deceased Satyam Punem, 40, a resident of Mujalkanker in the Ilmidi police station limits, was strangled to death by Naxalites on Monday, a police officer said. The police found that a handwritten pamphlet, allegedly by the Maoists' Madded area committee, said Mr. Punem had been aiding the police as an informer despite repeated warnings from the outfit, the officer said. Nearly 40 civilians have been killed this year by Maoists in the Bastar region that comprises seven districts including Bijapur.

Chhattisgarh officer booked for disproportionate assets

In a chargesheet filed in connection with a disproportionate assets case before a court on Tuesday, the Chhattisgarh Economic Offences Wing/Anti-corruption Bureau (EOW/ACB) said Soumya Chaurasia, a former Deputy Secretary to then Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel, held assets and investments which was nearly 19 times her earnings. Ms. Chaurasia had acquired assets worth nearly ₹50 crore in her 17-year career as a State Administrative Service official, the agency stated in a press release. She has made benami investments in approximately 45 immovable properties in the names of her family members and other individuals, the bureau stated.

Qatar Airways flight makes emergency landing after snag

A Qatar Airways flight from Doha to Hong Kong made a precautionary emergency landing at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport in Ahmedabad on Tuesday following a "technical issue." Flight QR816 landed safely around 2.32 p.m., and all passengers were reported safe. Airport officials said a full emergency was declared at 2.12 p.m. to facilitate the aircraft's landing. "Due to a technical issue on an aircraft *en route* from Doha to Hong Kong, a full emergency was declared to enable the aircraft to land safely. The aircraft landed without incident, and airport operations remained unaffected," an official statement said.

Appoint nodal officers to trace missing children: SC

Court notes that despite existence of a dedicated portal, there is hardly any sharing of information among the stakeholders; Bench says the nodal officers must take prompt action on complaints

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed the Union government to instruct all States and Union Territories to depute a nodal officer to handle cases of missing children and to provide their names and contact details for publication on the Mission Vatsalya portal operated by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

The court was hearing a public interest litigation petition filed by the non-profit organisation, Guria Swayam Sevi Sansthan, which highlighted the rising number of missing children across several States who remain untraced.

A Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and R. Mahadevan observed, "We direct the Union of India to communicate to each State and Union Territory to depute a nodal officer responsible for cases of missing children and to make available their name and telephone number so that these details may be uploaded on the Mission Vatsalya portal."

> There has to be cooperation between the State and the Centre in this... this is how you make it workable
>
> **JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA**
> Supreme Court Judge

The Bench further directed that whenever a complaint regarding a missing child is received on the portal, the information should be simultaneously shared with the respective nodal officers. They must then take prompt action to trace the child, identify and investigate the perpetrators, and register additional complaints where necessary.

E-portal for tracing

In an earlier hearing, the court had directed the Centre to develop an online platform to trace missing children, allowing police agencies across States and Union Territories to share information and coordinate investigations.

Appearing for the Centre, Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati informed the Bench that such a system was already in place through the Mission Vatsalya portal. She added that two earlier platforms, TrackChild and Khoya-Paya, had been integrated into it, and that 14 stakeholders were currently participating in the initiative.

Ms. Bhati submitted that any citizen who came across a missing child, or any parent or guardian seeking to report a missing child, could directly access the portal to file a complaint.

However, Justice Nagarathna remarked that there was "hardly any dissemination of information" among the stakeholders concerned despite the existence of a dedicated portal.

"There has to be cooperation between the State and the Centre in this... this is how you make it workable," she said.

Senior advocate Aparna Bhat, assisting the court as *amicus curiae*, drew attention to a recent surge in cases of child abduction and trafficking, observing that authorities had failed to take timely and effective action.

Better coordination

The Bench directed that the deputed nodal officers must establish a coordinated network across districts, States, and Union Territories to ensure efficient dissemination and collection of information.

The court granted four weeks to the Centre to collect details of nodal officers from all States and Union Territories and to upload the information on the Mission Vatsalya portal.

India calls for swift action on climate measures at Pre-COP

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Environment Minister Bhupendra Yadav emphasised the need to "implement" climate measures, in a series of meetings in Brasilia, Brazil, on Monday in the build-up to the 30th edition of the Conference of Parties (COP) in the city of Belem, beginning November 10.

Bhupendra Yadav

"We must now focus on implementing ambitious climate measures and, above all, addressing the most pressing challenge: the urgent lack of resources for developing countries to deliver adaptation and mitigation," he said. The Minister stressed that the time for continuous reviews without action has passed. "Dialogue is important, but action is imperative."

These meetings called 'Pre-COP' meetings are an annual feature ahead of the main meeting and usually involve participation by a small group of senior delegates representing their countries, to iron out differences, find common bridging points to improve the chances of a successful outcome at the COP meeting.

Mr. Yadav acknowledged the successful conclusion of the first Global Stock Take (GST), a five-yearly process established by the Paris Agreement to assess the world's collective progress on climate action.

He said that the GST is designed to strengthen ambition by performing three essential roles – enabling Parties (member countries) to evaluate collective progress, identify remaining gaps, and guide enhanced actions both domestically and globally.

The Minister also met Mr. Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

WHO issues product alert on three contaminated oral liquid medicines

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a medical product alert on three liquid medicines identified in India as contaminated and reported to it on October 8.

They have been identified to be of specific batches of Coldrif, Respifresh TR and ReLife, manufactured by Sresan Pharmaceutical, Rednex Pharmaceuticals, and Shape Pharma, respectively.

The UN agency said Indian regulatory authorities had been advised to consider targeted market surveillance, with particular attention to informal and unregulated supply chains where products might circulate undetected.

They should carefully evaluate the risks associated with any oral liquid medicines originating from the same manufacturing sites – particularly those produced since December 2024.

The products are deemed substandard for failing to meet quality standards. REUTERS

"The CDSCO [Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation] has informed WHO that none of the contaminated medicines have been exported from India and there is currently no evidence of illegal export," it said adding that the affected products contained active ingredients commonly used to relieve symptoms of the common cold, flu, or cough.

Substandard product

The WHO said the products were considered substandard as they failed to meet quality standards and specifications. On October 8, the CDSCO reported presence of diethylene glycol in at least three oral liquid medicines. Diethylene glycol is toxic to humans when consumed and can prove fatal.

"WHO continues to collaborate closely with Indian health authorities to monitor the situation, identify the source of the contamination and mitigate any potential public health risks," it said.

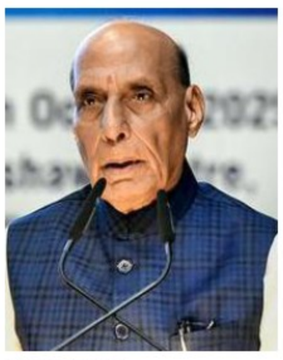
The agency warned that the contaminated products posed significant risks to patients and could cause life-threatening illness.

Defence Minister calls for reformed multilateralism upholding global order

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Some nations are violating or undermining global rules while others seek to impose their own, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday, asserting that India stands firm in upholding the international rules-based order even as it pushes for reform of outdated multilateral structures to meet contemporary challenges.

Addressing senior military leaders of the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCC) at the inaugural session of the Chiefs' Conclave under way at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi from October 14 to 16, and being hosted by India for the first time, the Defence Minister highlighted a "4C formula" – consultation, cooperation, coordination, and capacity-building – as a guiding principle for UN peacekeeping. The approach was essential to tackle emerging challenges, and ensuring sustainable global peace, he said.



Rajnath Singh

Urging technologically advanced and financially capable nations to enhance their contributions through troops, logistics, technology, and specialised capacities, the Minister said innovations such as secure communications, surveillance systems, and unmanned platforms could make missions safer and more effective.

"Meeting the emerging challenges demands more than bravery; it requires adaptability and innovation on the part of troop-contributing countries," Mr. Singh said.

Mr. Singh leader reaffirmed India's steadfast support to UN peacekeeping, noting that nearly 2,90,000 Indian personnel had served in over 50 missions across the world, from the Congo and Korea to South Sudan and Lebanon. "India is ready to contribute troops, share expertise, and support reforms that make peacekeeping more effective and accountable," he said.

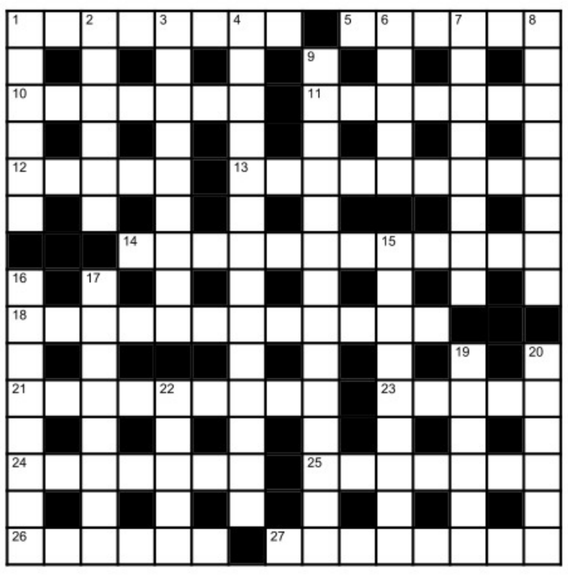
In his welcome address, Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi highlighted India's long-standing contributions to UN peacekeeping.

TH CROSSWORD + 14614

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Cover of fashion completely overturned by a bloomer (8)
5 Awkward to see Charlie in Hague, abandoned (6)
10 Club magazine? (7)
11 Watch closely the stock market in case of turnover (7)
12 Broken flowerpot, fool goes leaving another fool (5)
13 Supply without hesitation - a horse for a Puma (9)
14 Shift to sporting plaids with setter (12)
18 Each dog, say, gets something to eat - is it an act of committing a crime? (12)
21 ...As I am in Ordu, part of Turkey (4,5)
23 Topic in paper without heading (5)
24 50% success over the target - he is respected in 21 (7)
25 With entrance, exit is determined (2-2-3)
26 Fat, close to outlet in parts (6)
27 Diamond setter retraced the way, disappeared outside (8)

Down

1 Need to keep runs in the end (6)
2 Friends initially like to catch up and bind (6)
3 New iPhone - part of Spanish cheers for one who loves his wine (9)
4 No replications possible instead of a parent (2,4,8)
6 Going north in Massachusetts state (5)
7 Blackbird car on top of the conveyor (8)
8 Negotiated a detente, but it lacks teeth (8)
9 Bond meets Bond for a game (8,6)
15 Pick up book images - they represent the writer's feelings (9)
16 A father, say, keeps quiet - is it clear? (8)
17 Productive, almost complete by date, say (8)
19 Founder ousted, happened regularly before (4,2)
20 Cancel permit for river crossing (6)
22 Work before leave to get the fruit (5)

SUDOKU

		2		8	5		9	
	1			6		2	5	4
			9					
		4		2		8	3	5
2	5	6		3		4		
					6			
1	3	9		5			4	
	6		2	4		5		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

No.SS6671 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

I	N	F	L	A	G	R	A	N	T	E		T	O	R
D		A		L		A		A		N		A		A
E	X	C	E	L		G	E	S	T	A	T	I	O	N
A		T		I		T		C		M		W		C
L	Y	O	N	N	A	I	S	E		O	K	A	P	I
I		T				M		N		U		N		D
S	O	U	T	A	N	E		T	A	R	E			
T		M		L					E		I		E	
			I	B	I	S		A	B	D	O	M	E	N
A		D		A		O		M				P		D
T	R	O	U	T		M	I	N	N	E	S	O	T	A
W		O		R		A		I		R		S		N
I	M	B	R	O	G	L	I	O		A	P	I	N	G
L		R		S		I		T		T		N		E
L	A	Y		S	C	A	R	E	M	O	N	G	E	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	9	1	2	6	4	3	7	5
7	5	3	8	1	9	4	2	6
2	4	6	3	7	5	9	1	8
5	1	2	7	3	6	8	9	4
3	7	4	5	9	8	1	6	2
6	8	9	4	2	1	5	3	7
9	3	5	6	8	2	7	4	1
4	6	7	1	5	3	2	8	9
1	2	8	9	4	7	6	5	3

FAITH

Purity of mind key

Without purity of mind and clarity of thought, one cannot hope to achieve anything in life. Moksha is more difficult to attain than material possessions. That being the case, how can one attain moksha, if one does not have what is known as chitha suddhi – a pure mind? Sage Saunaka tells Yudhishthira that to have purity of mind, one must adhere to certain rules, elaborated Kidambi Narayanan in a discourse.

The first requirement for attaining clarity of thought is control of the indriyas. The indriyas tend to mislead us, because they are attracted by all the objects of pleasure in this world. Lured by the attraction of material possessions and the pleasures of worldly life, we lose sight of the very purpose of life, which is for the atma to attain liberation. We proceed in whatever direction the indriyas lead us. The second requirement for moksha is sankalpa, the determination to travel on the right path. We should also know what vratas to follow at all times and in all countries. It is not easy to follow vratas, but that is no reason for us to give them up. To strive to do what is difficult is important. While we may fail a couple of times, over a period of time, we will be able to observe all the required vratas.

We should serve our Acharyas sincerely, and never think of such service as burdensome. That means we should serve willingly. We must follow a proper diet. A study of the Vedas will go a long way in helping us reach our goal. We should do our karmas, but should be unattached to the fruits of our actions. We should be as unattached to the results as a sanyasi is to worldly life. He who wants no rebirths will follow all the above rules.

INBRIEF

Gold hits all-time high of ₹1,30,800 per 10 grams

Gold prices on Tuesday surged by ₹2,850 to reach an all-time high of ₹1,30,800 per 10 grams in the national capital, driven by heavy festive buying by retailers and jewellers ahead of 'Dhanteras'. According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal of 99.9% purity had closed at ₹1,27,950 per 10 grams on Monday. Gold of 99.5% purity also advanced by ₹2,850 to hit a record ₹1,30,200 per 10 grams, from the previous close of ₹1,27,350 per 10 grams. PTI

FICCI announces Anant Goenka as President-Elect

Industry chamber Ficci on Tuesday announced RPG Group Vice Chairman Anant Goenka as President-Elect for 2025-26.Mr. Goenka is currently the Senior Vice President of the chamber. He will succeed Harsha Vardhan Agarwal at the conclusion of its AGM slated for the end of next month here. RPG Group is a $5 billion conglomerate with interests in the tyre, infrastructure, pharma, IT and speciality sectors, the chamber said in a statement. PTI

LG Electronics India lists at 50% premium on debut

LG Electronics Ltd. listed at a 50% premium on the NSE, opening at ₹1,710 a share, up from the allotment price of ₹1,140 a piece. The stock, however, dipped 1.6% and closed at ₹1,628 on its debut. The shares dipped to a low of ₹1,650 a piece and went as high as ₹1,749 a piece before settling at the day's closing price. The South Korean electronics giant raised ₹11,607 crore via an initial public offering from the Indian stock market, which was an offer for sale.

Tata Trusts recommends third term for Tata Sons Chairman

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Tata Trusts has recommended a third term for N. Chandrasekaran as the Chairman of Tata Sons, the principal investment holding company and promoter of Tata group companies, according to sources.

The development comes at a time when the trustees of Tata Trusts – the umbrella of philanthropic trusts that control 66% of the equity share capital of Tata Sons – are vertically split over board appointment and governance issues.

It wasn't immediately known when the recommendation was made and what action Tata Sons took on it.

Last week, the Tata Trusts board had met, discussing routine issues, staying away from contentious matters, amid the infighting that threaten to impact the functioning of Tata Sons and in general the over $180 billion salt-to-semiconductor conglomerate.

Google to invest $15 billion in AI data centre at Vizag

This would be the tech giant's largest AI hub ever outside the United States; Bharti Airtel, AdaniConneX to help build the 'gigawatt-scale' compute capacity data centre

G.V.R. Subba Rao
Saptaparno Ghosh
VISHAKHAPATNAM

In a yet another boost to Andhra Pradesh's digital ambitions, tech giant Google announced Tuesday that it would be investing approximately $15 billion over the next five years to develop a 'gigawatt-scale' compute capacity data centre focussed on artificial intelligence (AI) in Vishakhapatnam.

The MoU was signed in the presence of AP Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Union IT and Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Andhra Pradesh IT Minister Nara Lokesh, and Google Cloud CEO Thomas Kurian, and senior officials. Mr. Kurian informed this would be the largest AI hub the California-based tech company would be building outside the U.S.

The tech giant would be partnering with telecom services provider Bharti Airtel and data centre services provider AdaniConneX to help build the data centre. The AI hub would look to provide high-performance and low-latency services that businesses require to scale their AI-powered suites.

Candid moment: Dignitaries pose for a selfie at the MoU signing event, in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. PTI

Additionally, Google's AI hub investment would also look to create a connectivity hub in Vishakhapatnam seeking to bring multiple international sea cables to land in the Port City. This would be further connected with the tech-giant's two million miles of existing terrestrial and subsea cables, thus, enhancing connectivity. "We see this hub not just serving India but from India serving Asia and other parts of the world," Mr. Kurian stated.

Welcoming the announcement as "historic", Mr. Naidu emphasised in a larger context, "AI is key to addressing some of our most pressing challenges, from agriculture and manufacturing to healthcare and finance. It will transform critical sectors, bring far-reaching benefits to our people, enhance governance, empower businesses and improve lives."

Ms. Sitharaman hailed the collaboration as a milestone in India's digital evolution. "The establishment of an AI Data Centre and subsea cable landing station in Visakhapatnam is a major stride toward our national growth vision," she said.

'Explore Andamans'

Mr. Vaishnaw suggested that Google explore the Andaman region to lay their undersea subsea cables. "It is a very strategic location, and Singapore today is all choked. Why can't we make Andaman as the next global hub for data transfer," he said, assuring the Union Government's support. He emphasised the region could help reach Southeast Asia, Australia and a "large part of the world which is today looking at totally new capacity".

He sought to know if the facility could be used for developing employment potential and talent to cater to AI services which were emerging as a "major new category of the digital economy".

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,030	-0.36
US Dollar	88.81	-0.14
Gold	1,30,800	2.22
Brent oil	62.41	-2.04

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2517.00	-10.40
Adani Ports	1429.00	-8.80
Apollo Hosp	7759.00	88.00
Asian Paints	2318.10	-24.40
Axis Bank	1176.80	-12.80
Bajaj Auto	9102.50	36.50
Bajaj Finserv	2019.40	-1.00
Bajaj Finance	1019.15	-17.60
Bharat Elec	402.40	-7.00
Bharti Airtel	1946.60	-8.30
Cipla	1552.30	-11.30
Coal India	380.95	-0.60
Dr Reddys Lab	1237.30	-25.10
Tata Motors CV	260.75	260.75
Eicher Motors	6887.00	-25.00
Eternal Ltd.	347.75	-0.60
Grasim Ind	2775.80	-22.20
HCL Tech	1495.40	0.70
HDFC Bank	977.15	0.15
HDFC Life	743.55	-3.00
Hindalco	760.10	-10.10
Hind Unilever	2502.30	9.50
ICICI Bank	1384.10	4.70
IntGlobeAvi	5759.00	-28.50
Infosys	1489.90	-3.30
ITC	396.80	-2.45
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	305.60	-2.85
JSW Steel	1147.80	-13.60
Kotak Bank	2151.80	-0.30
L&T	3744.30	-25.20
M&M	3459.80	0.10
Maruti Suzuki	16261.00	-62.00
Max Healthcare	1161.50	18.20
NestleIndia	1175.50	-12.60
NTPC	336.65	-5.05
ONGC	244.69	0.60
PowerGrid Corp	287.50	1.35
Reliance Ind	1375.90	0.90
SBI Life	1816.20	0.90
State Bank	876.95	-6.00
Shriram Finance Ltd.	674.45	2.30
Sun Pharma	1654.40	-14.00
TataConsumerProduct	1118.90	1.90
Tata Motors	395.45	-265.30
Tata Steel	170.51	-2.52
TCS	2960.30	-46.90
Tech Mahindra	1468.00	17.10
Titan	3537.40	3.80
Trent Ltd.	4617.20	-64.40
UltraTech Cement	12070.00	-102.00
Wipro	248.42	3.29

IMF forecasts India to grow 6.6% in 2025, cuts projection for next year

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its October outlook, increased India's growth projections by 20 basis points to 6.6% for 2025 whilst projecting a decline of the same intensity to 6.2% in 2026.

The Washington-headquartered financial institution predicted that global growth would edge upwards by 20 basis points to 3.2% this year, with the outlook for 2026 unchanged at 3.1%.

Elaborating the rationale for the upward revision for India, IMF attributed it to a carry-over effect from a "strong" first quarter, which helped New Delhi "more than offset" the impact of U.S. President Donald Trump-induced tariff regime since July.

India's GDP in June-end had peaked to a five-quarter high of 7.8%, driven primarily by sectors such as manufacturing, services and construction.

The downward revision for 2026, thus, considers a fading of the momentum from the first quarter.

IMF attributed the slowdown in global growth to headwinds from "uncertainty and protectionism".

The IMF, however, stated that the impact of the tariff was "smaller than originally announced [anticipated]".

Saudi Arabia to boost ties with India in textile sector

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

A high-level Saudi Arabia delegation led by Vice-Minister for Industry and Mineral Resources Khalil ibn Salamah met Union Textiles Secretary Neelam Shami Rao in New Delhi to advance bilateral cooperation in the textile sector.

India was the second-largest supplier ($517.5 million) to Saudi's textile and apparel sector in 2024 capturing 11.2% share of textile and apparel imports.

At the meeting, there was mutual recognition of Saudi's strength in petrochemical-based industries and India's expanding capabilities in Man-Made Fibre and technical textiles.

TechM Q2 PAT dips, to pay ₹15 dividend

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Tech Mahindra, the IT arm of the Mahindra Group, posted a 4.4% year-on-year dip in consolidated net profit to ₹1,194.5 crore for the September quarter.

Revenue from operations rose 5.1% to ₹13,995 crore. EBIT at ₹1,699 crore was up 32.7% and new deal wins stood at $816 million.

Mohit Joshi, CEO and MD, said the company delivered broad-based growth, reflecting the strength of strategy and execution.

"We launched TechM Orion, a next-generation AI platform and TechM Orion Marketplace to aid enterprises hasten autonomous transformation," he said.

Rohit Anand, CFO, said the quarter marked the eighth consecutive period of margin expansion, driven by operational efficiency and disciplined execution.

The IT services firm said new deal wins stood at $816 million.

"Our deal TCV is up 57% y-o-y on an LTM basis, supported by strong deal conversions," he said. The board approved a dividend of ₹15 per share. Total headcount was 1,52,714 at Q2 end, down 1,559.

TASE Global acquires Joined Alloys for ₹106 crore

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Chennai-headquartered Trusted Aerospace Engineering (TASE Global) has acquired U.S.-based Joined Alloys for ₹106 crore.

This acquisition will enable TASE to expand its areas of work into precision metal assembly. And, TASE will soon be working on plans to establish these capabilities in India.

"The acquisition is a part of forward integration unlocking synergies in aerospace manufacturing, defence and medical applications, allowing us to pursue ambitious projects across industries," said Sankararaman Vaidyanathan, chairman, TASE Group.

Maruti sales gallop post GST rate cut

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Passenger car market leader Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. is seeing unprecedented demand for entry-level cars post GST rate cut as two-wheeler owners are increasingly making a beeline to own a car, Partho Banerjee, senior executive officer - Marketing & Sales, Maruti Suzuki Ltd. said.

In the four weeks since a cut in the GST was announced, the automaker received bookings for four lakh cars and delivered 2.5 lakh, he said.

Maruti's factories were working even on Sundays to meet the huge demand, he said adding bookings at the rate of one lakh cars a week will continue till Diwali end and hopefully, there after. "This happens to be pent-up demand because many customers who wanted to buy the car in August withheld the buying decision," he said.

Entry-level cars like Celerio, WagonR and the Alto K10 got close to 80,000 bookings.

Infosys bags U.K. NHS' £1.2 bn deal

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Infosys, said it has been awarded a £1.2 billion, 15-year contract by the NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) to deliver Future NHS Workforce Solution.

As per the contract, Infosys would develop a cutting-edge, data-driven workforce management solution, to replace the existing Electronic Staff Record (ESR) system and facilitate payroll functions for 1.9 million NHS staff in England and Wales who are paid £55 billion annually, said a press release.

According to a communique, powered by advanced technologies, the new solution will deliver a modern, flexible, and integrated platform that supports the entire employee staff lifecycle, from recruitment and onboarding to payroll, career development and retirement.

The platform will not only drive efficiency but empower NHS to elevate it, says Parekh.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tender No. 03/2025-26/SE/PPD/KCH
AMRUT - 2.0 - Kochi Corporation-2025-26-Providing underground sewerage networks and allied works in Division 55 (Giri Nagar) and Division 57 (Kadavanthra) of Kochi Corporation for the newly proposed 5MLD STP at Elamkulam-Sewerage Work
Cost of Tender Form: Rs.19,518 (Inclusive of GST), **EMD**: Rs.5,00,000/-, **Date and Time of Opening Tender**: 15/11/2025 at 3.30 pm, **Last Date of Receipt of Tender**: 14/11/2025 at 3.00 pm, **Phone No**. 8547638502, **E-mail**- seppdregionkochi@gmail.com
Sd/-, Superintending Engineer, PPDIU & Sewerage Circle, KWA, Kochi - 11

KSEB KERALA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED - E -TENDER NOTICE
O/o The Chief Engineer (IT, CR, & CAPS), Vydyuthi Bhavanam, Thiruvananthapuram
Tender No. CEIT/RITU-TVM/CCC/CallCentre/25-26/04 Dated 04.10.2025
Project Title: **Selection of Vendor for Upgradation, Expansion, and Operation of the Centralised Call Centre of KSEBL at two locations in Kerala.**
Last Date for Submission of Bid: **11.11.2025, 05.00 pm.**
Visit **www.etenders.kerala.gov.in** and **www.kseb.in**
Ref: PR/MC1/F365/E-tender/2025

नालको NALCO
National Aluminium Company Limited
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Nalco Bhawan, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar - 751 013, Odisha
CIN : L27203OR1981GOI000920
A NAVRATNA COMPANY
EoI FOR R&D COLLABORATION/COMMERCIALIZATION OF TECHNOLOGY WITH NALCO
Notice No: NBC/R&D/87/2696 **Date: 14.10.2025**
Expression of Interest (EoI) is being sought by National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) for R&D collaboration/Commercialization of Technologies from different Institutes / Laboratories / Companies. For details, please visit EOI/Recent Notices section of **www.nalcoindia.com**
DGM (Metallurgy)

GREATER WARANGAL MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
RFP Notice No. COMM/GWMC/RFP 02/e-procurement/2025-26, Dated:-13-10-2025
Name of the Work:- Selection of Agency for Collection, Transportation, Processing and Disposal of Construction & Demolition(C&D) waste on DBFOT basis for Cluster-I (GWMC+15 ULBs). **Bid Document Download Start Date** : 16-10-2025 from 5.00 pm onwards; **Date & Time for Pre-Bid Meeting** : 24-10-2025 @11.00 am in the O/o Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation; **Last date for receiving queries** : 27-10-2025 upto 5.00 pm; **Response to queries** : 30-10-2025 at 11.00 am; **Bid Submission Start Date** : 30-10-2025 from 1.00 pm onwards; **Last Date for receipt of Bids** : 17-11-2025 upto 4.00 pm; **Opening of Technical Bids** : 17-11-2025 upto 4.30 pm. NOTE: Further details can be seen @ "e" procurement market place @ **www.tender.telangana.gov.in.**
Sd/- Commissioner, Greater Warangal Municipal Corporation
DIPR R.O.No.9160-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt. 14-10-2025

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AYURVEDA
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY
(Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India)
Jorawar Singh Gate, Amer Road, Jaipur-302002 (Rajasthan)
Website: www.nia.nic.in
VACANCY NOTIFICATION NO. 1/2025
Online Applications are invited for 1 Post of Professor (Shalakya Tantra), 4 Posts of Assistant Professor in different Subjects, 1 Post of Administrative Officer, 1 Post of Radiologist, 1 Post of Nursing Superintendent, 2 Posts of Nursing Officer (1 Ayurveda & 1 Modern), 1 Post of Personal Assistant, 1 Post of Junior Medical Laboratory Technologist, 7 Posts of Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS).
All Details are available in the Website of the Institute: **www.nia.nic.in**. Applications are to be filled Online only in the Website of the Institute. **The Closing Date for Online Filling of Application is 5-12-2025.**
JP SHARMA
Date: 14-10-2025 **JOINT DIRECTOR (ADMN.)**

KMML The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. of Kerala Undertaking),Sankaramangalam,Kollam 691583
Phone : 0476-2651215 to 217, E-Mail :md@kmml.com
TENDER NOTICE
For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Sl No	Tender Id	Items
1	2025_KMML_804719_1	For the supply of AC Corrugated sheets 3M, AC seven core ridges and FRP(B) sheets Opaque
2	2025_KMML_808766_1	Supply of spare parts for N301 acid fume scrubber
3	2025_KMML_809602_1	Supply of Pipe Seamless CS-100mm-1100MR

Chavara 14.10.2025 **Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd**

KOLKATA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION e-TENDER
ABRIDGED NIT
The **Director General, P&D Department, KMC** invites online e-tender / quotation expression of interest of lower bidder for the under mentioned work:–
NIT No.: **KMC/D.G.(P_D)/C/028/2025-26**
Name of Work:**Upgradation and Refurbishment of Brick Sewer by Desilting and GRP lining along Elliot Road & Royd Street, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Road, Nirmal Chandra Street Under Br-V, VI & VII within KMC Area.** Estimated Value: **Tender amount to be quoted by the bidder.** Earnest Money: ₹ **10,00,000.00. (Rupees Ten Lakh) (The balance amount of Earnest Money fall short of 2% of Quoted tendered amount will be deposited by the successful bidder in the form of demand draft in favour of "The Kolkata Municipal Corporation").** Period of Completion: **36 (Thirty Six) months.** Last date and time of submission of Bid: **29.11.2025 (11.30 a.m.)**. Pre-bid Meeting (Date & Time): **30.10.2025 (12.00 noon)**. Place of Pre-bid Meeting: **Office of the Director General, P&D Department, KMC 19, Nellie Sengupta Sarani, Kolkata-700087.** Bid submission start date (online): **03.11.2025 (11.30 a.m.)**. Bid opening date for Technical Proposals (Online): **01.12.2025 (01.00 p.m.)**. The bid forms and other details are available on and from **15.10.2025 (11.30 a.m.)** from the website **https://wbtenders.gov.in**
1195/25-26

राजस्थान सरकार
कार्यालय-निदेशक, पुरातत्व एवं संग्रहालय विभाग, राजस्थान, जयपुर
अल्बर्टहाल परिसर, रामनिवास बाग, जयपुर
दूरभाष सं. 0141-2820360 (ईमेल- dirarchraj@gmail.com)
क्रमांक: पु.सं./अ.अ./2025/15579 दिनांक 10/10/2025
:: ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या- 5/2025-26 अन्तर्गत संशोधन ::
पुरातत्व एवं संग्रहालय विभाग के पत्र क्रमांक पु.सं./अ.अ./2025/14089 दिनांक 11.09.2025 द्वारा ई-निविदा सूचना 5/2025-26 जारी की गई है, इस निविदा सूचना अन्तर्गत ई-निविदाएँ प्राप्त करने एवं खोलने की तिथियों में निम्नानुसार संशोधन किया जाता है-

NIB No.	UBN No.
AMD2526A0045	AMD2526WLOB00050

विवरण	पूर्व में प्रकाशित तिथि एवं समय	संशोधित तिथि एवं समय
ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने एवं ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र प्रस्तुत करने की अन्तिम दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 13.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 15.10.2025 प्रातः 11.00 बजे तक
निविदाएँ खोलने की दिनांक एवं समय	दिनांक 13.10.2025 मध्याह्न 02.00 बजे	दिनांक 15.10.2025 मध्याह्न 02.00 बजे

DIPR/C/15194/2025 **(आशीष गर्ग)**
अधिशासी अभियन्ता

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WASHINGTON

'Six killed in fresh U.S. strike on alleged drug boat off Venezuela'

AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump said a strike on boats allegedly taking drugs from Venezuela killed "six male narcoterrorists." The latest strike was carried out in international waters, Mr. Trump said, adding "the vessel was trafficking narcotics, and was transiting along a known DTO (designated terrorist organisation) route." AFP

PARIS

French PM backs suspension of pension reform in key move

AFP

France's Prime Minister Sebastien Lecornu on Tuesday backed the suspension of an unpopular 2023 pensions reform, in a key move to bolster his Cabinet's survival and draw his country out of political crisis. "There will be no increase in the retirement age from now until January 2028," Mr. Lecornu said. AFP

KUALA LUMPUR

Trump to attend the signing of Thailand-Cambodia 'peace deal'

AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump will attend the ceremonial signing of a peace agreement between Thailand and Cambodia at an upcoming summit of Southeast Asian nations, the Foreign Minister of host Malaysia said on Tuesday. Mr. Trump had brokered in part the truce arrived at by both countries after five days of fighting in June. AFP

BEIJING

China President Xi Jinping hosts Sri Lankan PM Harini Amarasuriya

REUTERS

Chinese President Xi Jinping hosted Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya and called for the strengthening of cooperation in a host of sectors, including collaboration in law enforcement and security. Mr. Xi told Ms. Amarasuriya that China is willing to jointly promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation with Sri Lanka. PTI

Russian aerial attack hits a Ukrainian hospital

Associated Press
KYIV

Russian forces launched powerful glide bombs and drones against Ukraine's second-largest city in overnight attacks, hitting a hospital and wounding seven persons, an official said on Tuesday, as European military aid for Kyiv dropped sharply and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy prepared to ask U.S. President Donald Trump for Tomahawk missiles.

The Russian attack on Kharkiv in Ukraine's northeast hit the city's main hospital, forcing the evacuation of 50 patients, regional head Oleh Syniehubov said. The attack's main targets were energy facilities, Mr. Zelenskyy said, without providing details of what was hit.

UN says Russia struck an aid convoy in southern Ukraine

A UN convoy of four vehicles that were clearly marked and delivering aid to the frontline town of Bilozerka in Kherson comes under attack; no casualties recorded in the drone and artillery strike

Agence France-Presse
KYIV

Russian forces struck a UN aid convoy in the partially occupied southern Kherson region of Ukraine on Tuesday, Kyiv and the UN said, adding there were no casualties in the attack.

The United Nations said its convoy of four vehicles was clearly marked and came under attack from Russian drones and artillery while delivering aid to the frontline town of Bilozerka.

"Such attacks are utterly unacceptable. Aid workers are protected by international humanitarian law and should never be attacked," said the UN's Humanitarian Coordinator for Ukraine Matthias Schmale.

Close shave: One of the two World Food Programme trucks struck by a Russian attack in Bilozerka in Kherson on Tuesday. AFP

He added that two World Food Programme trucks were damaged in the strike, while local authorities said the remaining two were unscathed.

The UN's sexual and reproductive health agency, UNFPA, said the convoy was carrying 800 individual packages "containing essential items for older persons, women and girls". "The area has a very high proportion of older people, many of whom are unable to relocate due to drones and shelling and rely on humanitarian assistance for survival," Jacqueline Mahon, UNFPA Representative to Ukraine, said.

'Brutal violation of law'

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Sybiga called the strike "another brutal violation of international law, proving Russia's utter disregard for civilian lives and its international obligations""

There was no immediate reaction from Moscow.

Madagascar Army seizes power after its President is impeached

Agence France-Presse
ANTANANARIVO

An elite military unit that backed youth-led anti-government street protests said on Tuesday that it had taken power in Madagascar after the national assembly voted to impeach President Andry Rajoelina.

Mr. Rajoelina, who was in hiding reportedly out of the country, had refused growing demands to step down after demonstrations that started on September 25 won the backing of the CAPSAT military unit at the weekend.

CAPSAT commander Colonel Michael Randrianirina read out a statement at the presidential palace saying the unit would set up a governing committee composed of officers from the Army, gendarmerie and national police.

Uncertain times: Members of the Madagascar CAPSAT military at the gates of the presidential palace in Antananarivo on Tuesday. AFP

"Perhaps in time it will include senior civilian advisers. It is this committee that will carry out the work of the presidency," Mr. Randrianirina said. "At the same time, after a few days, we will set up a civilian government," he said. "We have taken power," he confirmed afterwards.

Parliamentarians on Tuesday pushed ahead with the impeachment vote despite Rajoelina's attempt to block it by issuing a decree hours earlier to dissolve the national assembly.

The impeachment vote passed with 130 votes in favour – well above the two-thirds constitutional threshold required in the 163-member chamber.

16 killed, several injured in fire at garment factory and chemical warehouse in Dhaka

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

At least 16 workers were killed and several others injured on Tuesday in a fire that broke out at a four-storey garment factory and a chemical warehouse in the Bangladeshi capital, officials said.

The devastating fire broke out at a chemical warehouse next to the garment factory in Dhaka's Rupnagar area, an officer at the Fire Service and Civil Defence Media Wing, was quoted as saying by the state-run BSS news agency.

"During the search campaign, 16 bodies were recovered from the garment factory alone," Fire Service spokesman Anwarul Islam told the agency.

Helping hand: Firefighters arrive for a rescue operation at the buildings damaged in a fire in Dhaka on Tuesday. PTI

Origin warehouse

He said fire was suspected to have broken out from the chemical warehouse and spread to the garments unit – Anwar Fashion Garments Factory and Shah Alam Chemical Warehouse.

"We have extinguished the fire at the garment factory, but efforts are still underway to douse the blaze at the chemical depot," Mr. Islam said.

"So far, we have recovered 16 bodies. Their faces are completely unrecognisable due to burning. Identification will only be possible through DNA testing," he told reporters in the evening.

"We suspect that all of them have died after inhaling toxic gas," an official was quoted as saying by *Prothom Alo*.

"We suspect the fire began with a chemical explosion that produced poisonous gas. Many victims might have died instantly after inhaling the toxic fumes," the official added.

Truce outlook bleak as Israel delays aid, Hamas tightens grip

Reuters
CAIRO/JERUSALEM

Israel delayed aid into Gaza and kept the enclave's border shut on Tuesday, while re-emergent Hamas fighters demonstrated their grip by executing men in the street, darkening the outlook for U.S. President Donald Trump's plan to end the war.

Three Israeli officials said Israel had decided to restrict aid into the shattered Gaza Strip and delay plans to open the border crossing to Egypt at least through Wednesday, because Hamas had been too slow to turn over bodies of dead hostages. The militant group has said locating the bodies is difficult.

Perennial wait: Children sit in a damaged house, amid a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, in Khan Younis on Tuesday. REUTERS

Meanwhile, Hamas has swiftly reclaimed the streets of Gaza's urban areas, following the partial withdrawal of Israeli troops last week.

In a video circulated late on Monday, Hamas fighters dragged seven men with hands tied behind their backs into a Gaza City square, forced them to their knees and shot them from behind, as dozens of onlookers watched.

Gunmen kill security official guarding polio team in Pak.

Press Trust of India
PESHAWAR

The polio vaccination team came under attack in the Arkot area of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

A security official guarding a polio vaccination team was killed in an attack by unidentified gunmen on Tuesday in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police said.

The polio vaccination team came under attack in the Arkot area of Swat district while carrying out its duties during the ongoing anti-polio campaign, District Police Officer (DPO), Swat, Muhammad Umar, said.

The unidentified assailants opened fire on security personnel assigned to protect the team, resulting in the killing of officer Abdul Kabir on the spot.

A search operation has been launched in the area following the incident, DPO Umar added.

The attack has once again highlighted the persistent threats faced by polio workers and security personnel during immunisation drives across the region.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA - DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,
DRAINAGE, CUTTACK, GANDARPUR-753003
E-PROCUREMENT NOTICE NO. CE-DR-CTC-06/2025-26
email Id :- cedrainage@gmail.com

1.	Name of Works	Clearing of water way and Construction of river training wall with associated structure in Bahada nalla near Haripur.
2.	Total number of Packages	1 no. individual package
3.	Estimated Cost	Rs.5955.91 lakh
4.	Bid Identification No.	CE-DR-CTC /DD-BAM-06/2025-26
5.	Period of completion	30 (Thirty) Calendar months.
6.	Availability of Tender On-Line	17.10.2025, 16.30 Hours to 17.11.2025, 17.00 Hours.
7.	Date of Opening of Technical Bid	18.11.2025 at 11.30 hours in the O/o the Chief Engineer, Drainage, Cuttack
8.	Class of Contractor	Super Class
9.	Bid Security / EMD	Rs.59,56,000/- (To be remitted online)
10.	Cost of Tender Paper	Rs.10,000/-
11.	Procurement Officer	Chief Engineer, Drainage, Cuttack, Gandarpur-753003

Further details can be seen from the Govt. web site **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**. Addendum / Corrigendum/ Cancellation if any required will be published only in Govt. web site **www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

A-726 : **Chief Engineer, Drainage, Cuttack**
OIPR-32076/11/0006/2526

ମୁଖ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ଯନ୍ତ୍ରୀଙ୍କ କାର୍ଯ୍ୟାଳୟ
ଗ୍ରାମ୍ୟ ନିର୍ମାଣ ମଣ୍ଡଳ, ବ୍ରହ୍ମପୁର
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
(At/Po :- Ambapua, Near Income Tax Office, Berhampur-760011. Ganjam, Odisha)
(E-Mail:- serwbpr2004@yahoo.com; Tel No.:-0680-2404287)

No. e-tender //3713 // RWC// BAM// Dated.13.10.25 E-Mail / E-despatch

2nd Corrigendum to Bid Identification No. Online Tender / 20-2025-26/BPR

1) The partial modification of Road works under MMSY-Improvement to Existing R.D.Roads vide above identification has been made as follows.

1.	Date of Availability of tender	:	**27.10.2025 to 10.11.2025 upto 5.30 PM** instead of 10.10.2025 to 27.10.2025 up to 5.30 PM
2.	Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification	:	**07.11.2025 at 5.30 PM** instead of 24.10.2025 at 5.30 PM
3.	Date of opening of Technical Bid	:	**11.11.2025 at 11.00 AM** instead of 28.10.2025 at 11.00 AM
4.	Date of opening of Financial Bid	:	**Will be intimated later on**

All other contents will remain unchanged.

O- 1027: **Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Berhampur**
OIPR-25071/11/0151/2526

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, SUNABEDA
e-mail - serwsbd2003@yahoo.com

Letter No. 3668 **1st Corrigendum** Date: 10.10.2025

In continuation to this office Bid Identification No. **CCERWCSBD-Online-18/2025-26** invited vide this office Notice No.3281 Dtd.11.09.2025, partial modification of NCB has been made as follows :-

Sl No.	Item	Time Schedule as per original NCB	Time Schedule as per Corrigendum notice
1	Availability of Tender online for bidding	23.09.2025 at 11.00 AM to 14.10.2025 up to 5.00 PM	**Extended up to 30.10.2025 5.00 PM**
2	Date and Time of seeking tender clarification if any	13.10.2025 up to 2.00 PM	**29.10.2025 up to 2.00 PM**
3	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	15.10.2025 at 11.00 AM	**31.10.2025 at 11.00 AM**
4	Date & Time of opening of tender (Price Bid)	Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders	**Will be intimated later on to the successful bidders**

All other terms and conditions will remain unaltered.

O-990: **Chief Construction Engineer, RW Circle, Sunabeda.**
OIPR-25182/11/0094/2526

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, MEDICAL EDUCATION & TRAINING, UTTAR PRADESH, 6th FLOOR, JAWAHAR BHAWAN, LUCKNOW.

No. ME-3/2025/2477 Lucknow : Dated 14/10/2025

-:: RE REVISED TIME SCHEDULE FOR "THIRD ROUND" OF UP NEET UG COUNSELING 2025 (M.B.B.S./B.D.S.) ::-

In accordance with the REVISED schedule issued by the Medical Counseling Committee (MCC), New Delhi for the NEET UG course, the **Re-Revised schedule for the third round** of online counseling for admission to state quota seats in undergraduate courses (MBBS/BDS) in government/private medical/dental colleges/institutions/medical universities is as follows :-

S.No.	Description	Dates	Total Days
1.	Date of online registration and uploading of documents	**From:-** 06-10-2025 (11:00 AM) **To:-** 15-10-2025 (11:00 AM)	09 days
2.	Date of depositing registration and security money	**From:-** 06-10-2025 (11:00 AM) **To:-** 15-10-2025 (02:00 PM)	10 days
3.	Date of revised merit list declaration	**On:-** 16-10-2025	01 days
4.	Date of On-line Choice filling	**From:-** 17-10-2025 (02:00 PM) **To:-** 24-10-2025 (11:00 AM)	07 days
5.	Date of Allotment Result Declaration	**On:-** 27-10-2025	01 days
6.	Date for downloading the allotment letters & Admission	**From:-** 28-10-2025 **To:-** 01-11-2025	05 days

- As per the instructions contained in the government order/brochure of **UP NEET UG 2025**, candidates should assess their eligibility themselves.
- Only those candidates will be eligible for choice filling who have completed the online registration process, whose original documents have been verified online, and who have deposited the required security amount.
- **The UP NEET UG 2025** information booklet (brochure) and important instructions are available on the **websites www.upneet.in** and **www.dgme.up.gov.in,** Keep checking websites regularly for updated information.
- The said counseling will be subject to the final orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, Lucknow Bench, in Special Appeal No. 295/2025, Uttar Pradesh State & Others vs. Sabra Ahmad.
- Helpline Numbers: **8189011696, 8189011697, 8189011698, 8189011699, 8189011700**

DIRECTOR GENERAL

PRESENT MATTERS

Too early to discuss WC: Gambhir on Rohit and Kohli's future

FILE PHOTO: K.R. DEEPAK

The 50-over World Cup is still two-and-a-half years away. They (Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli) are quality players. Their experience is going to be valuable in Australia. Hopefully, those two guys can have a successful tour, and more importantly, as a team we can have a successful series — India head coach Gautam Gambhir.

POSITIVE SIGN

Wanted to see this kind of fight in previous matches: Chase

SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

This is the kind of fight I wanted to see from us in the previous matches. This is a stepping stone to go forward and improve as a Test-playing nation. This is the performance that will boost us in terms of belief. I want the guys to continue in this vein — West Indies skipper Roston Chase.

STATUS QUO

India stays in the third spot in World Test C'ship standings

SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

India remained third in the World Test Championship 2025-27 standings after the 2-0 sweep against the West Indies. After seven matches, India has 52 points (four wins, two losses and a draw) and a points percentage of 61.90%. Australia, with three wins in as many games, has 36 points and a points percentage of 100.

IT'S DIFFERENT

Cannot compare the matches and pitches in India and Lanka: Syeda

AP

The World Cup matches are being played in two countries. The matches in India have had high totals and successful chases, but the wickets in Colombo are very different. So, we can't really compare the two — Syeda Aroob Shah on Pakistan's inability to chase targets.

Rahul steers India to a facile series victory at home

Gill tastes success in a rubber as Test skipper for the first time; West Indies will have to go back to the drawing board after suffering its fifth defeat in a row in the longest format of the game

Finishing it off: Rahul saw India over the line. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

WI IN INDIA

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Exactly an hour after play began at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on the fifth day, K.L. Rahul punched Jomel Warrican through wide mid-on to bring up a seven-wicket win. It helped India seal a 2-0 series sweep against the West Indies, a return to normalcy on home soil after the anomaly of a 0-3 defeat to New Zealand last year. It marks Shubman Gill's first series win as Test skipper.

With Rahul finishing unbeaten on 58 off 108 deliveries, a target of 121 was reached in 35.2 overs.

Poor record

Though the visitor showed more fight and application in the second Test, it will ultimately have to go back to the drawing board after suffering its fifth defeat in a row in whites. It hasn't won a Test against India since 2002, and hasn't won one in India since 1994.

Watchful start

Having resumed day five on 63 for one in 18 overs, India needed just 58 runs with nine wickets in hand. A matter of mere formality it was, but Rahul and B. Sai Sudharsan began by being fairly watchful against the West Indian spinners.

The first boundary came in the fifth over of a brief morning session when Rahul used his feet to motor down the pitch and wallop Warrican for four over mid-off. Even then, just 15 runs were added to India's total in the first nine overs of the day.

Raising the tempo

Rahul upped his tempo thereafter, smashing Khary Pierre for 10 runs in the 28th over. On both occasions, he was quick to step out, first picking the area over long-on for a maximum and then flicking a full ball all along the ground through midwicket for four.

Brilliant catch

For Sai Sudharsan, who had been vigilant till then, a tossed-up delivery outside off-stump by Roston Chase was too tempting in the next over to resist the drive. He went after it, only to get a thick edge that flew to Shai Hope at slip. Hope, who is also a wicketkeeper, moved promptly to his right and snaffled the chance.

Gill came in and unfurled a couple of big hits against Chase's off-spin. A length ball was deposited over long-on for six while a half-tracker was pulled with precision to the right of deep midwicket for four.

Miscue

But his impetuosity to ensure a quick finish resulted in a miscue in the same over that was superbly held onto by Justin Greaves. When the winning moment came three overs later, Gill was back to exuding a joyous grin.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA — 1ST INNINGS
518/5 decl. in 134.2 overs
WEST INDIES — 1ST INNINGS
248 in 81.5 overs
WEST INDIES — 2ND INNINGS
390 in 118.5 overs
INDIA — 2ND INNINGS (Target 121)
Yashasvi Jaiswal c Phillip b Warrican 8 *(7b, 2x4)*, K.L. Rahul (not out) 58 *(108b, 6x4, 2x6)*, B. Sai Sudharsan c Hope b Chase 39 *(76b, 5x4)*, Shubman Gill c Greaves b Chase 13 *(15b, 1x4, 1x6)*, Dhruv Jurel (not out) 6 *(6b, 1x4)*; Total (for three wkts. in 35.2 overs): 124.
FALL OF WICKETS
1-9 (Jaiswal, 1.3 overs), 2-88 (Sai Sudharsan, 28.3), 3-108 (Gill, 32.6).
WEST INDIES BOWLING
Seales 3-0-14-0, Warrican 15.2-4-39-1, Pierre 8-0-35-0, Chase 9-2-36-2.
PoM: Kuldeep; **PoS:** Jadeja.
India won by seven wickets to clinch the two-match series 2-0.

Gill ticks all the boxes as captain, says Gambhir

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

Enjoyable time: Gill, Gambhir and Kuldeep celebrate with the trophy. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

For Shubman Gill to start his Test captaincy career on a five-match tour of England was a baptism by fire. He came through that stern challenge by producing phenomenal returns with the bat and managing a 2-2 series draw after a riveting climax at The Oval. Comparatively, a home series against West Indies was never going to be as demanding, but by ensuring a clean sweep and enhancing his batting average, Gill has done all that could be asked of him before this assignment.

"He has already passed his toughest test as captain. That was in England, five Tests away from home in tough conditions against a quality team," head coach Gautam Gambhir told the media after India's seven-wicket win on Tuesday.

"I've told him to just be himself. No one has done him a favour by appointing him the Test or one-day captain. He deserves every bit of it. He ticks all the boxes."

With Gill's workload as an all-format star on the rise, Gambhir was asked whether the 26-year-old would need a mental conditioning coach to handle the taxing schedule.

The former opener, who turned 44 on Tuesday, responded in a lighter vein: "First and foremost, I need one. He's scoring runs. He's in good space."

The tenor of the media interaction changed when Gambhir hit out at former chief selector K. Srikkanth for his insinuation of Harshit Rana being a "yes-man" to the coach.

"Look, it's extremely shameful," Gambhir said of Srikkanth's recent comments on his YouTube channel.

"If for running your YouTube channel, you go after a 23-year-old, it is unfair.

"You can target people's performance. But if you say such things about a 23-year-old kid, it's not nice," he added.

Sri Lankan top-order fires, but rain has the final word

ODI WORLD CUP

Kavita Menon
COLOMBO

On a day when missed opportunities became the talking point, Sri Lanka's top-order was the biggest benefactor.

Against an otherwise disciplined New Zealand bowling attack, the Lankans prioritised partnership over power and trundled to 258 for six, their highest total against the White Ferns in the format.

However, even before the Kiwis could begin their chase, persistent rain ended the contest.

The sparse but cheerful crowd at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Tuesday was witness to a multifaceted home side, right from the slow and steady toil at the top to the accelerated approach at the finish.

Cautious start

Opting to set a target this time, Sri Lanka captain Chamari Athapaththu was joined by Vishmi Gunaratne as the duo started cautiously.

Their contrasting styles complemented each other, resulting in a 101-run opening stand and Athapaththu's first half-century in over five months.

The skipper looked fluent, but the youngster struggled to keep pace. The openers fell, forcing Hasini Perera and Harshitha Samarawickrama to rebuild.

While the latter had a brief but confident stay, the former played the role of anchor after overcoming a shaky period.

Nilakshika Silva was given the platform to take on the bowlers from the get-go. She was off the mark with a boundary, lofting Sophie Devine over mid-on. That was the beginning of an onslaught as she targeted the right deliveries and kept finding the gaps.

Nilakshika brought up the quickest half-century of this edition – off 26 balls – with a heave towards deep-midwicket. She ensured Sri Lanka closed out strongly by hammering three consecutive fours off the final over, making Devine's nine-over spell the most expensive.

The captain was, however, New Zealand's clutch player once again, picking up three wickets, including that of her counterpart Athapaththu.

The White Ferns will look back and rue the multiple chances they couldn't utilise, including an early nick by the dangerous Athapaththu as well as a handful of fumbled run outs and stumping chances by 'keeper Izzy Gaze.

The scores:
Sri Lanka 258/6 in 50 overs (Vishmi 42, Athapaththu 53, Hasini 44, Nilakshika 55 n.o., Devine 3/54) vs New Zealand; **Match abandoned**.

Points Table

	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
Australia	4	3	0	1	7	1.353
England	3	3	0	0	6	1.864
South Africa	4	3	1	0	6	-0.618
India	4	2	2	0	4	0.682
New Zealand	4	1	2	1	3	-0.245
Bangladesh	4	1	3	0	2	-0.263
Sri Lanka	4	0	2	2	2	-1.526
Pakistan	3	0	3	0	0	-1.887

Tall order for Pakistan as it takes on England

Kavita Menon
COLOMBO

The search for those elusive first points will tug hard at the few threads Pakistan is holding on to at the Women's ODI World Cup 2025.

Coming off three losses in as many games, the bottom-placed team faces high-flying England at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Wednesday, with survival on the line.

A week ago, against Australia, the Fatima Sana-led side looked poised to pull off an unheralded win, but the defending champion snuffed out the dream in quick time.

Beth Mooney's quiet perseverance turned the tide, and the spirit in the Pakistan camp seemed to fade long before the Aussie bowlers completed the demolition.

Big challenge

For Fatima, the bigger task at hand will be to regroup and rekindle the spark that showed promise.

While Pakistan's bowlers have managed early breakthroughs with relative ease, their inability to stem the flow of runs in the latter stages has cost the team dearly. Against an English side that struggles against spin, Nashra Sandhu and Sadia Iqbal need to be wisely employed.

Prized scalp

The left-arm orthodox pair will test some of England's best right-handers, with captain Nat Sciver-Brunt's wicket being the ultimate prize. Sciver-Brunt, fresh off a century, will draw more confidence from her impressive record against Pakistan – averaging 92 and striking at 131. She will also look to her bowlers, led by Sophie Ecclestone, to tighten the screws on a faltering Pakistan batting line-up.

Today's match

Colombo, 3 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD IN ODIs
Played: 15
England 13 | Pakistan 0
NR 2
IN WORLD CUPS
Played: 4
England 4 | Pakistan 0
LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1 (SD & HD) & JIOHOTSTAR

Real struggle

No one, barring Sidra Amin, has scored even 50 runs in three innings combined, leaving the batting department under pressure.

Yet to taste victory against England, Pakistan will enter the fixture on the back foot, facing an imposing 13-0 record.

But a win would do more than end the streak; it would help keep its campaign alive.

Raman optimistic of India making the semifinals

Richa. K.R. DEEPAK

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

The Indian women's cricket team is in a spot of bother after suffering back-to-back losses to South Africa and Australia in the ongoing ICC World Cup. However, former head coach W.V. Raman believes that the team can bounce back by winning its remaining three league games and reach the semifinals.

"They can still go on to win the remaining league games against England, New Zealand, and Bangladesh. Just because they have suffered reverses in a couple of games doesn't mean their campaign is over. This team is good enough to bounce back from setbacks and win the championship," the 60-year-old told *The Hindu* on the sidelines of former India cricketer R. Ashwin being felicitated by his *alma mater*, PSBB (K.K. Nagar), at its campus here on Tuesday.

Raman. FILE PHOTO

Backing the bowling

The five-bowler theory adopted by the team has come in for criticism in certain quarters, but Raman backed the management.

"The challenge would be to see if they can unsettle the batting combination by bolstering the bowling attack. Then they will also have to see if they have the very good sixth bowling option they are looking for. It's not an easy call to make, and you can't really resort to knee-jerk reactions by simply altering your plans because you lost a couple of games."

Raman praised the all-rounders, spinners, and lower-order batters while acknowledging the crucial contributions of Richa Ghosh. "Maybe Jemimah (Rodrigues) and Harmanpreet (Kaur) could have contributed a bit more than they've done so far. They're experienced enough and are dangerous players when they get going," he said.

INBRIEF

Giants put it past Pirates, get campaign back on track

Gujarat Giants defeated Patna Pirates 40-32 in a PKL 12 match in New Delhi on Tuesday. Giants were trailing by seven points at one stage before prevailing by an eight-point margin.

Mumbai sweat past Kochi in five-set thriller to stay on top

Mumbai Meteors posted a 15-7, 7-15, 13-15, 15-8, 15-11 win over Kochi Blue Spikers in the Prime Volleyball League in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Meteors now shares the top spot with Bengaluru Torpedoes on 11 points after four matches.

Gukesh gets top billing at the FIDE World Cup

Reigning World champion D. Gukesh will be the top seed in the FIDE World Cup, beginning in Goa from October 30, followed by compatriots Arjun Erigaisi and R. Praggnanandhaa. The tournament carries a prize purse of $2 million and will feature 206 participants vying for three spots in the 2026 Candidates Tournament.

India and Pakistan play out a draw in Sultan of Johor Cup

The Indian junior men's hockey team played out a 3-3 draw against Pakistan in their third group-stage match of the Sultan of Johor Cup in Johor (Malaysia) on Tuesday.

The result: India 3 (Hundal 43, Kushwaha 47, Manmeet 53) drew with Pakistan 3 (Shahid 5, Sufyan 39 & 55).

India's Joby claims bronze in para powerlifting Worlds

India's veteran para powerlifter Joby Mathew clinched bronze in the Legend (Masters) category of the para powerlifting World championships in Cairo with an effort of 152kg. The gold was won by Thailand's Phongsakon Chumchai (162kg), followed by Peru's Neil Gracia (161kg).

Sadhana wins bronze in Algeria International Series

India's Sadhana Fenelon bagged the bronze in Algeria International Series badminton at Cite Mdina Jadida recently. The 19-year-old lost to the eventual champion Jelena Buchberger of Croatia 21-23, 11-21 in the semifinals.

LIVE TELECAST

Women's ODI World Cup: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 3 p.m.
PVL: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.

A fascinating contest between former champions on the cards

Unadkat-led Saurashtra will bank on its new crop of young talents to deliver; Karnataka's prospects boosted by the return of the prolific Karun Nair

RANJI TROPHY

Tarun Shastry
RAJKOT

A heavyweight clash is set to kick off the 2025-26 Ranji Trophy season as domestic powerhouses and former champions Karnataka and Saurashtra face off in a Group-B encounter here on Wednesday.

The home side enters the contest after a forgettable end to its previous campaign, where it suffered a heavy innings-and-98-run loss to Gujarat in the quarterfinals. Despite the challenges of a transitional phase, the hosts clawed their way into the knockout stages, thanks to a spirited young core.

Inconsistent

The visitors, on the other hand, endured an inconsistent season. Though they managed 19 points, erratic performances dashed their knockout hopes.

The lone bright spot was a commanding innings-and-207-run thrashing of Punjab, highlighted by a sublime double hundred from 22-year-old R. Smaran, a rising star in the side's batting line-up.

Key player: Karnataka's cause will be well-served if Karun can continue his roaring domestic form. VIJAY SONEJI

This season, Karnataka's prospects have received a major boost with the homecoming of Karun Nair. After three prolific years with Vidarbha – during which he amassed a mountain of runs and played a pivotal role in the title triumph – Karun returns to his roots.

The narrative around his comeback gained momentum when the universe aligned with his heartfelt plea to 'Dear Cricket,' granting him a long-awaited return to the Indian Test side during the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy – eight years after his last appearance.

Stability

Although his red-ball comeback yielded modest returns, his presence in the Karnataka setup adds experience and much-needed stability to the middle order.

For Saurashtra, leadership rests in the seasoned hands of Jaydev Unadkat.

The experienced left-arm seamer – who has twice led the team to Ranji glory – remains pivotal, both as captain and spearhead of the bowling attack.

With a few senior players walking into the sunset, responsibility now shifts to the next generation, and young talents such as Harvik Desai, Tarang Gohel, and Chetan Sakariya are expected to step up.

RANJI SCHEDULE - FIRST ROUND

Elite Group-A: Uttar Pradesh vs. Andhra (Kanpur), Tamil Nadu vs. Jharkhand (Coimbatore), Odisha vs. Baroda (Cuttack), Nagaland vs. Vidarbha (BCCI CoE, Ground 2, Bengaluru).
Group-B: Saurashtra vs. Karnataka (Rajkot), Kerala vs. Maharashtra (Thiruvananthapuram), Goa vs. Chandigarh (Porvorim), Madhya Pradesh vs. Punjab (Indore).
Group-C: Railways vs. Haryana (Surat), Bengal vs. Uttarakhand (Kolkata), Gujarat vs. Assam (Ahmedabad), Services vs. Tripura (Delhi).

Group-D: Hyderabad vs. Delhi (Hyderabad), Rajasthan vs. Chhattisgarh (Rajsamand), J & K vs. Mumbai (Srinagar), Pondicherry vs. Himachal Pradesh (Puducherry).
Plate: Bihar vs. Arunachal Pradesh (Patna), Sikkim vs. Manipur (Rangpo), Meghalaya vs. Mizoram (Shillong).

Shubman Gill, and the evolution of a batter and captain

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

India were expected to win 2-0, and they did exactly that. The focus, however, was on Shubhman Gill, a different personality than the one who led the Indian team on the tour of England recently, his inaugural series in charge. Then he was an untested quality, batting average in the 30s, captaincy experience in red ball cricket limited.

He had to prove himself on two fronts while taking Indian cricket forward following the departure of the three stalwarts, Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma and Ravichandran Ashwin.

With over 750 runs in five Tests, he made a mockery of the uncertainty over his ability to adapt to conditions in England. And a 2-2 series finish meant his captaincy wasn't too shabby either.

Quick learner

In both roles, he showed himself to be a quick learner, earning the respect of his colleagues, and especially those who might have nursed ambitions of their own of leading India.

And he did it his way, with little fuss, no excessive attention-seeking on the field, and with confidence suggesting he had been born into his roles.

Being accepted as an Indian captain is a major task. It seldom happens in the first series, especially when former captains are in the team.

But K.L. Rahul and Jasprit Bumrah only made Gill's task easier, acting like the senior players they were, ready with advice and the occasional concern which was not driven by personal agenda.

This was seldom the case with young captains in the past, as with Mohammad Azharuddin on his first series as captain in New Zealand. Or even Sourav Ganguly who said famously that he had the second most important job in the country after the Prime Minister. Probably the second most difficult too.

With that background, Gill took on the West Indies. Anything less than at least one century and a 2-0 series win would have been seen as a disaster.

Questions would have been asked. Trolls – and he seems to attract a particularly vicious lot – would have had a field day. No individual, let alone a national captain should be subject to such abuse.

Gill ticked the boxes then, with a century himself in a 2-0 win. He showed he clearly enjoys his job.

But it's more than just the runs. Equally important is the manner in which he has made them as a fitting successor to Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli at No. 4 in the order.

Few batters in international cricket drive or pull with his elegance; none play the short arm jab with such certainty. 'Ruthlessness' is not a word that should be associated with sport, but there is a ruthlessness about the batting which is not yet a feature of his captaincy.

Most captains would have chosen to bat again in the Delhi Test, piled up a quick total and then with the track having deteriorated, asked the West Indies to either swim or sink.

Indian bowlers needed nearly 120 over to dismiss them a second time – they bowled nearly 200 overs in a row – and although time was not a factor, rest was not factored in. That's a minor crib, however, but 'workload management' being the current buzz phrase, such things will attract attention.

From a larger perspective, the fact that it enabled two visitors to make centuries and hint however weakly at the suggestion of a West Indies revival, can only be good for that game. Sometimes unintended consequences can be positive, although the West Indies will have to do a lot more.

The desperation that cricket fans have for the resurgence of a once-great team like the West Indies is a feature of the modern game.

As Gill knows, every series is a test, every format another challenge. To lead in all three formats (Gill leads in two and is vice captain in T20) while being the side's leading batter is not unusual, but requires great adaptability and amazing fitness, both physical and mental.

Every captain stamps the team with his own personality. While Gill evolves into the leader he will become, and the Indian team settles into the ideal version of the captain, Indian fans can look forward to a treat in the process. That is what change promises.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Sahil nets two as Rebels FC gets the better of Bangalore Dream United

Sahil Rashid Dar scored a brace as Rebels FC beat Bangalore Dream United FC 2-1 in the KSFA Super Division League Championship here on Tuesday.

The results: Rebels FC 2 (Sahil Rashid Dar 28, 33) bt Bangalore Dream United FC 1 (Rodu Duo 59); FC Bengaluru United 1 (K. Lijo 81) bt Parikrma FC 0.

Postal holds Karnataka State Police

Postal drew with Karnataka State Police 3-3 in the Hockey Karnataka League Championship here on Tuesday.

The results: Postal 3 (M. Naveen Kumar 13, Rajant 36, Palaniswamy 40) drew with Karnataka State Police 3 (Vasanth Kumar 3, Umesh Mutagar 27, Manikanta Bijwad 31); SAI STC 2 (D.R. Pavan 13, Hrithik Aiyappa 40) drew with DYES-B 2 (Mourya Thimmaiah 8, Pranam Gowda 35).

Iceland puts a check on France's merry run

Commendable: Gritty Iceland held France. GETTY IMAGES

WC QUALIFYING

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Injury-hit France was held to a 2-2 draw by Iceland in 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifying on Monday, while Germany won in Northern Ireland with a Nick Woltemade goal and Belgium beat Wales to stand on the brink of a place at next year's finals.

France was without a host of players in Reykjavik, including captain Kylian Mbappe and Ballon d'Or winner Ousmane Dembele, both out injured.

The results: Group A: Northern Ireland 0 lost to Germany 1 (Woltemade 31); Slovakia 2 (Obert 55, Schranz 72) bt Luxembourg 0. **Group B:** Slovenia 0 drew with Switzerland 0; Sweden 0 lost to Kosovo 1 (Asllani 32). **Group D:** Iceland 2 (Palsson 39, Hlynsson 70) drew with France 2 (Nkunku 63, Mateta 68); Ukraine 2 (Hutsuliak 30, Malinovskyi 64) bt Azerbaijan 1 (Axundzade 45+3-og). **Group J:** North Macedonia 1 (Bardhi 74) drew with Kazakhstan 1 (Karaman 54); Wales 2 (Rodon 8, Broadhead 89) lost to Belgium 4 (De Bruyne 18-pen, 75-pen, Meunier 24, Trossard 90).

Tanvi, Unnati and Rakshitha sail through; Vennala crashes out in second round

BADMINTON

Nihit Sachdeva
GUWAHATI

Among the Indian players, Tanvi Sharma made the smoothest transition from the relay system of the mixed team competition to the shortened best-of-three games format for the individual leg of the World junior badminton championships on Tuesday.

The 16-year-old Tanvi, well-rested as she last played on Wednesday in India's final group-stage fixture of the Suhandinata Cup against the UAE, took just 11 minutes to brush aside Poland's Wiktoria Kaletka 15-2, 15-1.

The top-seeded Indian, awarded a first-round bye, will take on Indonesia's Oei Louisa Jovanka Sandi Winarto for a place in the pre-quarterfinals.

Surging ahead: Unnati made short work of Liu. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Eighth seed Unnati Hooda and 10th seed Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj also joined Tanvi with wins but Vennala Kalagotla's singles campaign ended with a 6-15, 5-15 loss to fifth seed Thai Tonrug Saeheng.

"For the last three weeks, I was mostly practising for doubles. Since it was just 15 points per game, it finished before I could even realise," said the 17-year-old, who moved to third round in doubles with partner Reshika Uthayasooriyan courtesy a walkover from their Polish opponents.

All four Indian boys – Rounak Chouhan, H. Lalthazuala, Suryaksh Rawat and Tankara Gnana Dattu Talasila – progressed to the next stage with Rawat and Gnana Dattu setting up an all-Indian clash.

India's hopes of a first-ever medal in doubles took a hit as two duos each in mixed and boys' events were shown the door.

Important results (second round, Indians Only): Girls' Singles: Unnati Hooda bt Liu Hoi Kiu Anna (HKG) 15-8, 15-9; Rakshitha Sree Santhosh Ramraj bt Lucy Yang (Can) 15-5, 15-9.
Boys' singles: Rounak Chouhan bt Thisath Rupathunga (SL) 15-3, 15-6; Suryaksh Rawat bt Yigitcan Erol (Tur) 15-5, 15-8; H. Lalthazuala bt Rylan Tan (USA) 15-11, 15-5; Tankara Gnana Dattu Talasila bt Joaquim Mendonca (Bra) 15-10, 15-13.
Mixed doubles: Bhavya Chhabra & Vishakha Toppo bt Ghian Rizqy Sofyan & Salsabila Zahra Aulia (Ina) 15-4, 13-15, 15-5; C. Lalramsanga & Taarini Suri bt Ralph Nino Dalojo & Andrea Princess Hernandez (Phi) 15-12, 15-5.
Boys' doubles: Bhargav Ram Arigela & Viswa Tej Gobburu bt Andrej Macek & Andrej Suchy (Svk) 15-7, 15-6.
Girls' doubles: Aanya Bisht & Angel Punera bt Wiktoria Kaletka & Olga Szwarnowiecka (Pol) 15-12, 15-11; Gayatri Rawat & Mansa Rawat bt Alya Elghandour & Fatema Rabie (Egy) 15-3, 15-5.

Prince, Dhanya shatter National records

ATHLETICS

Sports Bureau

Haryana's Prince clocked 2:25.11 to rewrite the men's under-18 1000m National record on the concluding day of the National junior athletics championships in Bhubaneswar on Tuesday.

Dhanya S. cleared 4.23m to take the women's under-16 long jump crown. The top-four, including Dixsha (4.11m), Anamika Ajesh (4.08m) and Kinjalben Thakor (4.07m), performed better than the previous National record (4.05m).

Tamil Nadu (289 points) pipped Haryana (287) for the overall trophy.

The results: Finals (winners only):
U-20: Men: 3000m steeplechase: Bhim Maan (Har) 8:58.17; **4x400m relay:** Tamil Nadu 3:10.64 (NMR, Old 3:11.03, Haryana, 2017); **Javelin:** Aditya (Har) 76.50; **Women: 3000m steeplechase:** Manju Choudhuri (Raj) 10:56.98; **4x400m relay:** Tamil Nadu 3:43.87 (NMR, Old 3:45.87, Kerala, 2012).
U-18: Men: 1000m: Prince (Har) 2:25.11 (NR, Old 2:26.04, Suraj Singh, 2025); **High jump:** Zubin Gohain (Asm) 2.01m; **Women: 1000m:** Heena (Har) 2:50.69; **Discus:** Amanat Kamboj (Pun) 49.01m.
U-16: Boys: 600m: Mohammed Sameer Khan (UP) 1:18.48 (NR, Old 1:21.22, Suraj Singh, 2024); **Long jump:** Abhinanth A.B. (TN) 4.94m (NR, Old 4.71m, Amrit Pal Singh, 2024); **Girls: 600m:** Sehnoor Bawa (Pun) 1:31.83 (NR, Old 1:33.26, Edwina Jason, 2024); **Long jump:** Dhanya S. (TN) 4.23m (NR, Old 4.05m, Annya S., 2024).
Best athletes: U-20: Men: Parth Singh (Jha, long jump); **Women:** Neeru Pathak (UP, 400m);
U-18: Men: Nishchay (Har, discus); **Women:** Shourya Ambure (Mah, 100m hurdles);
U-16: Boys: Abhinanth A.B. (TN, 60m); **Girls:** Jilsha Jinli (Ker, 60m); **U-14: Girls:** Aaradhya Singh (Har, kids javelin).

In vain: India could not build on Chhangte's early strike. AIFF

India fails to qualify for AFC Asian Cup

Singapore makes the Blue Tigers pay dearly for missed chances; the loss leaves Jamil's men bottom of Group-C, with no wins in four matches

FOOTBALL

Aashin Prasad
MARGAO

On a night where India showed plenty of promise, it had to swallow a bitter pill at the hands of Singapore at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Tuesday. The 2-1 defeat ended any hopes of a third successive AFC Asian Cup qualification.

India played its best football under Khalid Jamil in some time in a frantic start which was punctuated by Lallianzuala Chhangte's outrageous opener.

India spurned multiple openings before the visitor delivered two sucker-punches to knock out the home side. The defeat left India bottom of Group-C, with no wins in four matches against teams ranked lower than its world ranking of 134.

India should have been at least ahead by three goals before the 40-minute mark but for Chhangte and Mahesh Naorem squandering chances.

India was relentless in its pressing and forcing Singapore back, which paid off in the 14th minute when Chhangte latched onto a loose pass inside his own half. Chhangte unleashed a thunderous hit from 30 yards out with his weaker foot.

As India let Singapore off the hook, the away side waited patiently for a lucky break, against a tiring Indian outfit, which came right before the interval.

A botched clearance from Rahul Bheke fell kindly for Glenn Kweh, who set up Song Ui-Young to side-foot the ball past Gurpreet Singh Sandhu.

India continued to press on in the second half while Singapore was happy to absorb the pressure, keen to use its pace to hurt India on the break.

Nikhil Prabhu, who had a superb game until then, handed it the initiative by losing possession inside Singapore's half.

Ui-Young doubled his tally when Shawal Anuar found the attacker on the end of a lighting break before the winger lashed past Gurpreet.

The result: India 1 (Chhangte 14) lost to Singapore 2 (Ui-Young 44, 58).

Muthusamy. AP

Spinners rule the roost, Test evenly poised

SA IN PAKISTAN

Agence France-Presse
LAHORE

The first Test between Pakistan and South Africa is set for a thrilling conclusion after rival spinners Noman Ali and Senuran Muthusamy wrought destruction on day three here on Tuesday.

Muthusamy took a maiden 10-wicket match haul to help bundle out Pakistan for 167 in its second innings to give South Africa a target of 277.

But Noman, following up his six for 112 in the first innings, dismissed captain Aiden Markram for three and Wiaan Mulder to keep the visitors down to 51-2 at the close.

Ryan Rickelton and Tony de Zorzi fought till stumps with South Africa needing another 226 runs.

The scores: Pakistan 378 & 167 in 46.1 overs (Shafique 41, Babar 42, Shakeel 38, Harmer 4/51, Muthusamy 5/57) vs South Africa 269 in 84 overs (Rickelton 71, de Zorzi 104, Noman 6/112, Sajid 3/98) & 51/2 in 22 overs.

Indian men secure Champions Division slot; women finish a disappointing eighth

ASIAN TT

Amol Karhadkar
BHUBANESWAR

Indian men finished sixth, while the women's team ended up a disappointing eighth on the penultimate day of the 28th Asian table tennis team championship at the Kalinga Stadium here on Tuesday.

Having bowed out in the quarterfinals and failing to defend their bronze medals, both teams were left to play for pride – and for a direct berth in the Champions Division (main draw) of the next Asian Championship.

The men's squad rose to the occasion, defeating DPR Korea 3-2 in a fiercely contested encounter to achieve that primary goal.

Captain Manav Thakkar set the tone by outclassing Ham Yu Song in straight games before Manush Shah sealed the tie with a commanding win in the deciding fifth rubber.

Ankur Bhattacharjee added to India's tally with a hard-fought triumph over Chon Jong Bom, tilting the contest India's way.

With the Champions Division slot secured, the Indian think-tank opted to give its reserves some game time.

Both SFR Snehit and Payas Jain showcased glimpses of aggression and flair, but India eventually went down to Hong Kong in the fifth-place playoff.

The women's team, however, endured a tough outing.

Having already missed a medal opportunity in the quarterfinals, they lost both their classification ties – including a crucial 2-3 defeat to DPR Korea earlier in the day.

Stellar show: Manav laid the platform for India's win against DPR Korea. BISWARANJAN ROUT

After Yashaswini Ghorpade narrowly lost a tense third match to Pak Su Gyong, Manika Batra conceded a walkover to Kim Kum Yong, confirming India's relegation to the qualifying rounds for the next edition.

China pips Japan

Chinese men survived the biggest scare to their domination as they were stretched to the hilt before scraping past Japan 3-2 in the semifinal that lasted four hours and 15 minutes. Leading 2-0, thanks to World No. 4 Tomokazu Harimoto overcoming World No. 7 Liang Jingkun and by Sora Mastushima stunning World No. 1 Wang Chuqin, Japan had a chance to create the biggest upset of the tournament.

However, World No. 2 Lin Shidong started the comeback, with Liam turning the tables on Matsushima in the last two games of the deciding rubber.

The results: Semifinals:

Men: Hong Kong (China) bt Taiwan 3-2 (Wong Chun Ting bt Liao Cheng-Ting 11-4, 8-11, 11-7, 10-12, 11-8; Chan Baldwin lost to Kuo Guan-Hong 6-11, 8-11, 12-14; Ho Kwan Kit lost to Chang Yu-An 11-9, 7-11, 3-11, 11-13; Wong bt Kuo 11-1, 11-7, 11-2; Chan bt Liao 11-4, 4-11, 0-11, 11-6, 11-5).

China bt Japan 3-2 (Liang Jingkun lost to Tomokazu Harimoto 10-12, 13-11, 11-13, 11-9, 9-11; Wang Chuqin bt Sora Matsushima 11-8, 4-11, 10-12, 11-9, 7-11; Lin Shidong bt Hiroto Shinozuka 12-14, 11-2, 11-5, 10-12, 11-6; Wang bt Harimoto 8-11, 11-1, 11-9, 13-15, 11-8; Liang bt Matsushima 8-11, 13-11, 11-13, 11-4, 11-3).

Women: Japan bt Singapore 3-0 (Miwa Harimoto bt Ser Lin Qian 11-4, 9-11, 11-5, 15-13; Honoka Hashimoto bt Zeng Jian 11-7, 11-7, 11-7; Satsuki Odo bt Loy Ming Ying 11-5, 11-3, 11-9); **China bt Korea 3-0** (Sun Yingsha bt Shin Yubin 11-4, 11-8, 4-11, 11-4; Wang Manyu bt Kim Nayeong 8-11, 11-5, 11-7, 11-6; Wang Yidi bt Lee Eunhye 11-8, 11-4, 12-10).

Fifth to eighth position:

Men: India bt DPR Korea 3-2; Republic of Korea bt India 3-0 (Oh Junsung bt Manav Thakkar 11-7, 9-11, 11-3, 11-7; Park Gyuhyeon bt SFR Snehit 11-7, 8-11, 11-6, 11-7; An Jaehyun bt Payas Jain 12-10, 11-8, 7-11, 11-8); *India finishes 6th.*

Women: India lost to DPR Korea 1-3.

India lost to Hong Kong (China) 2-3 (Yashaswini Ghorpade lost to Su Tsz Tung 9-11, 7-11, 11-8, 14-12, 7-11; Swastika Ghosh bt NG Wing Lam 8-11, 11-9, 11-7, 11-9; Diya Chitale bt Kong Tsz Lam 11-7, 8-11, 11-5, 11-9; Yashaswini lost to Lam 11-8, 11-7, 8-11, 5-11, 6-11; Swastika lost to Su 11-8, 8-11, 13-11, 6-11, 4-11); *India finishes 8th.*

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYATH, BELLARY
Office of the Executive Engineer, P.R.E. Division, Bellary.
No. EE/PRED/BLY/AE-1/Various Heads/2025-26/1130
Dt. 09-10-2025.

Tender Notification (Through KPPP Portal only)

On behalf of Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka tenders are invited from the eligible contractors who have enrolled in Panchayath Raj Engineering Department for 05 works comprising of approved Road and Building works under 2024-25 KKRDB, 2024-25 Minority Dept Shadhi Mahal Building, 2024-25 5054 Flood Grant , 2024-25 SSA KPS School Repair and 2024-25 4202 Major and Minor School Repair 4202 fund through KPPP portal.

Indent No.
6.RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT19364
7.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT19556
8.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT19554
9.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT19553
10.RDPR/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT19560

Contractors are required to submit the tender before 24-10-2025 at 4.30 PM by uploading the relevant documents through KPPP portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in by downloading the formats for submission of tenders from 09-10-2025 to 24-10-2025 at 4.30 PM. Tenders will be opened through KPPP portal on 27-10-2025 at 10.30 AM. Any changes in the notification will be published KPPP website only. Accepting/rejection of tenders without assigning reason is reserved. Any details can be obtained in person at the office or through telephone No. 08392-266173.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division Ballari
DIPR/Ballari/519/KSMCA/2025-26

Your feedback will keep us Cleaner, Sharper and Bolder

Call our toll-free number
1800 102 1878
Or write to us at
customercare@thehindu.co.in
Scan the QR code to register your feedback

THE HINDU · thehindu businessline · FRONTLINE · SPORTSTAR · The Hindu Young World · THE HINDU

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
7th Floor, 3rd Gate, M.S. Building,
Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-560 001
No: ED/405/UBV/2025(Part-1) **Date:14.10.2025**

Selection of Vice-Chancellor for Bangalore North University, Tamaka, Kolar.

Invitation of Applications for the Post of Bangalore North University, Tamaka, Kolar as per Section 14(2) of Karnataka State Universities Act, 2000.

The Higher Education Department, Government of Karnataka invites Application for the Post of Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore North University, Tamaka, Kolar. The Applications should be submitted within Thirty days (30) from the date of publication of this notification. The detailed application form and further details are available on Higher Education Department website **https://hed.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Deputy Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department (Universities)
DIPR/CP/JA/3237/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಉಡುಪಿ
ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂ: ಕಾಇಂ:ಪಂರಾಇಂವಿಉ:ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಂ.13/2025-26/2104
ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13/10/2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ e-procurment portal ನಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಉಡುಪಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರಿಂದ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ವಿವಿಧ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವಿವಿಧ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆಯಡಿ ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ **(Standard Tender Documents for Procurment of Goods)** ನ ನಿಭಂದನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಅರ್ಹ ದರ್ಜಿಯ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇ-ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಂದು **Government of Karnataka e-procurement portal WEB site https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ವಿವರ: **Tender for Supply, Installation, and Maintenance of Roof Top Solar System to Various Hostels of Social Welfare and ITDP Department under Zilla Panchayat, Udupi District.**
ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: ರೂ. 60 ಲಕ್ಷ
Tender Shoud coat separatly of each Items in web Sit Portal
(1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 13-10-2025 ರಿಂದ 22-10-2025ರ ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ. (2) ಟೆಕ್ನಿಕಲ್ ಬಿಡ್ಡುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24-10-2025 ಪೂರ್ವಾಹ್ನ 10.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಇನ್ನಿತರೆ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳು, ಪರತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳನ್ನು **WEBsite https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ ಕಛೇರಿಯವರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಾಸಾಇ/ಸಿಬಿ/ಕೆಮ್ಸ್‌ಎಂಒ/463/25-26 ದಿ: 14.10.2025
ಸಹಿ/- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಉಡುಪಿ

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka,
Nirvachana Nilaya, Sheshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.

Preparation of Electoral Rolls for Teachers' Constituencies of Karnataka Legislative Council

Notice under rule 31(4)of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960

In pursuance of rule 31(4) of the Registration of Electors Rules. 1960, each of the Electoral Registration Officers of **1) Bangalore Teachers' Constituency 2) Karnataka North-East Teachers' Constituency,** vide his notice dated **30th September 2025,** called upon every person entitled to be registered in the electoral roll of the relevant Teachers' constituency mentioned above, to send to, or deliver at, his office on or before **06th November 2025** (i.e. the last date of receipt of applications) application in Form19 appended to the Registration of Electors Rules,1960 and reproduced in the second schedule of the said notice published in the editions dated 30th September 2025 of **(1) The Times of India 2) The Hindu, 3) Vijaya Karnataka**, **(4) Prajavani Newspapers.**

All the above mentioned persons may submit their applications in **Form 19 on or before 6th Novermber 2025** (i.e, the last date of receipt of applications), if not already done.

The said details are also available in the official website of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka at **www.ceo. karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/3135/2025-26

FORM NO. NCLT-3A
ADVERTISEMENT DETAILING PETITION
[SEE RULE 35 OF THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL RULES, 2016]
IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF AMALGAMATION OF
TRITONVALVES CLIMATECH PRIVATE LIMITED
(PETITIONER COMPANY NO.1/ TRANSFEROR COMPANY)
WITH
TRITON VALVES LIMITED
(PETITIONER COMPANY NO.2/ TRANSFEREE COMPANY)
AND
THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS AND CREDITORS
COMPANY PETITION (CAA) NO. 42/BB/2025
CONNECTED WITH
COMPANY APPLICATION (CAA) NO. 01/BB/2025

TRITONVALVES CLIMATECH PRIVATE LIMITED
(CIN: U31909KA2020PTC131337)
A company registered under the Companies Act of 2013,
Having its registered office at Sunrise Chambers,
22 Ulsoor Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560042.
Represented by Mr. Naresh Varadarajan, Chief Financial Officer
... Petitioner Company No.1/ Transferor Company

TRITON VALVES LIMITED
(CIN: L25119KA1975PLC002867)
A Company Registered Under the Companies Act of 1956,
Having its Registered Office at Sunrise Chambers,
22 Ulsoor Road, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560042
Represented by Mr. Bibhuti Bhusan Mishra, Company Secretary
... Petitioner Company No.2/ Transferee Company
(Together called as "Petitioner Companies")

Notice of Petition

A Joint Company Petition under Sections 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013, seeking approval of Scheme of Amalgamation of Triton Valves Climatech Private Limited (Petitioner Company No.1/ Transferor Company) and Triton Valves Limited (Petitioner Company No.2/ Transferee Company) and their respective shareholders and creditors **("Scheme")** was presented by the Petitioner Companies on **26th September, 2025** and the said Petition is fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench on **19th November, 2025**. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition should send to the respective Petitioner Companies Registered Office, notice of his/ her intention, signed by him/ her or his/ her Advocate/ Representative, with his/ her name and address, so as to reach the Petitioner's Registered office not later than **30 days** before the date fixed for the hearing of the Petition. Where he/ she seeks to oppose the Petition, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his/ her affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

Tritonvalves Climatech Private Limited (Petitioner Company No.1/ Transferor Company)	**Triton Valves Limited (Petitioner Company No.2/ Transferee Company)**
Sd/-	**Sd/-**
Naresh Varadarajan	**Bibhuti Bhusan Mishra**
Chief Financial Officer	**Company Secretary**

Date : 15.10.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Executive Engineer
Public Works Department,
No. 1, Buildings Division, SJP Campus, Bengaluru
Ph: 080-22255210
No.: EE/Bld.1/AE-4/2025-26/46 Date: 10.10.2025

Invitation for Tender (IFT)

The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK (**http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible Tenderers for providing security arrangements, annual maintenance of Bungalow, maintenance of bore well, garden pumps, sump tank, booster pump, external sweeping, cleaning of roads, providing painting, polishing, repairs of toilet, providing partition, annual maintenance of sanitary, water supply, carpentary, providing ornamental stone works, RCC pedestal, platform pathway, providing essential manpower and other development works, **total of 11 works** at various notified places. Approx. value of work: **Min. Rs. 1.02 lakhs, Max. Rs. 112.86 lakhs.** EMD: **Min. Rs. 2,600/-, Max. Rs. 2,00,000/-.** Cost of Document: As in e-portal. Period of Completion: **3 to 10 Months.** Last date for downloading Tender through e-procurement portal and submission through online: **For Sl. No. 1,2,3,5,6,7,8 &9: 18.10.2025, for Sl. No. 4: 27.10.2025 & for Sl. No. 10 &11: 21.10.2025 up to 4.30 PM.** Date of opening the Tender: as per e-procurement guidelines. Further information regarding brief details of works, approx. value of work, EMD, period of completion, reservation and other details can be obtained from the above office or from e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer
DIPR/DD-C.P/3266/KSMCA/2025-26

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯವರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ,
ಬೀರಸಂದ್ರ ಗ್ರಾಮ, ಕುದಾಣ ಹೋಬಳಿ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ದೇವನಹಳ್ಳಿ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು – 562110.
ಇಮೇಲ್ : dudc_blr@yahoo.co.in dudu.blrrural@gmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : ಜಿ.ನ.ಕೋ./ಬೆಂ.ಗ್ರಾ.ಜಿ./ತಾ.ಶಾ./ಸಿ(3)/ವಿವ22/2018–19
ದಿನಾಂಕ : 09–10–2025

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಅಮೃತ್ ನಗರೋತ್ಥಾನ (ಮುನಿಸಿಪಾಲಿಟಿ) ಹಂತ 4 ರ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ದೊಡ್ಡಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ನಗರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಚರಂಡಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮುದಾಯ ಭವನ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಅರ್ಹ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ಮೂಲಕ **90** ದಿನಗಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಸಿಂಧುತ್ವ ಅವಧಿಯಳ್ಳ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿತ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಮೂಲಕ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **1) DMA/2024-25/OW/WORK_INDENT31139/Call-2, 2)** ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **516.35, 3)** ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ. ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ) : **6,56,000/–, 4) ಪೂರ್ವ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 16–10–2025** ರ ಅಪರಾಹ್ನ 3.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, **5) ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 23–10–2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ, **6) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 24–10–2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ.

ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಅರ್ಹ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ **ಪೂರ್ವ ಬಿಡ್ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಗಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹಗೊಂಡ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.** ಯಾವುದೇ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಮುಂದೂಡಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೂರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕಛೇರಿಯ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಬೆಂಗ್ರಾಜಿ/ಮುನಿಪಾಲ್/3251/2025–26

ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka,
Nirvachana Nilaya, Sheshadri Road, Bengaluru - 560 001.

Preparation of Electoral Rolls for Graduates' Constituencies of Karnataka Legislative Council

Notice under rule 31(4)of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960

In pursuance of rule 31(4) of the Registration of Electors Rules. 1960, each of the Electoral Registration Officers of **1) Karnataka West Graduates' Constituency and 2) Karnataka South East Graduates' Constituency,** vide his notice dated 30th September 2025, called upon every person entitled to be registered in the electoral roll of the relevant Graduates' Constituency mentioned above, to send to, or deliver at, his office on or before **06th November 2025** *(i.e. the last date of receipt of applications)* application in Form18 appended to the Registration of Electors Rules,1960 and reproduced in the second schedule of the said notice published in the editions dated **30th September 2025** of **(1) The Times of India 2) The Hindu, 3) Vijaya Karnataka (4) Prajavani** Newspapers.

All the above mentioned persons may submit their applications in **Form 18 on or before 6th Novermber 2025** *(i.e, the last date of receipt of applications),* if not already done.

The said details are also available in the official website of the Chief Electoral Officer, Karnataka at **www.ceo. karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/JA/3135/2025-26

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